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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE Emperor of Russia is either sincere or insincere in his acceptance of the Austrian propositions—four of them definite, and one indefinite. If he be sincere, as many people are willing to believe, it is essential for the proper conduct of the negotiations that the Allies should keep in remembrance the agencies by which he has been brought to so wholesome a state of mind. If he be insincere—as, judging from the avowed and long-pursued policy of his country and his dynasty, and from his own antecedents as well as those of his immediate predecessor, it is not very uncharitable to suppose that he may be—it is equally essential that Great Britain and France should remember that insincerity understands no argument so well as that of the strong arm; and that, in order to restrain him whom words will not bind, they must retain in their hands the physical power to coerce and punish.

Assuming it as true that the Czar sincerely desires to end the war, and that he has consented to take upon himself the humiliation of acceding, without *arrière pensée*, to the demands of Austria, it must be clear that no abstract love of peace, no mere sympathy with Quakerism of the school of Sturge and Bright, has operated his conversion to sentiments so praiseworthy. If he be willing to take peace from the dictation of that Francis Joseph whose empire was not long ago saved from destruction or dismemberment by the legions of his father, it is not because he loves peace, or Francis Joseph, or because he has ceased to covet Constantinople, but because he fears the might of France and England; because he was beaten at the Alma, at Inkerman, and at the Malakoff; because Sebastopol is in our power; because his southern fleet is at the bottom of the sea; because his northern fleet dares not show more than its topmasts which peep from behind the granite defences of Cronstadt in a security that is not likely to be per-

petual; because Bomarsund and Sweaborg have been destroyed; because his maritime trade has been annihilated; because the Crimea trembles in his grasp; because defeat has followed upon defeat, and humiliation upon humiliation; because he can no longer depend upon the aid or the neutrality of Germany; because Sweden, longing to repossess her ancient Finland, has entered into alliance with his enemies; and because there reaches him in St. Petersburg the mighty sound of the preparations of England for a Baltic campaign; and because he knows that such an amount of gun-boats, and of other ships of war fitted for the great enterprise, will appear before Cronstadt in the early spring, if peace be not made in the mean time, as will dim the *prestige* of his arms to the uttermost confines of his empire, and inflict upon his power a shock that will reverberate through Europe and Asia. It is the conviction that the Allies have done so much, and are ready to do so much more, that has made the



DISTRIBUTION OF THE QUEEN'S MEDALS TO THE FRENCH CRIMEAN TROOPS, BY H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, AT PARIS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



Czar reasonable—if reasonable he be. And shall Great Britain and France, at the first rumour that their enemy is weary of the war, lay down their arms as if the final victory was won? Shall they, because he consents to accept a basis for negotiation, be such "greenhorns" as to stop short in their preparations for another campaign? Shall they act as if it were only in the affairs of great nations, that there never comes "a slip between the cup and the lip"? Shall they forget that between a desire to negotiate and the result of negotiation there is a wide gulf? and that if they throw down their arms they will cut away the bridge which can best enable them to cross it? Surely the people and Governments of these two mighty nations are not such fools? There are no merchants in the city of London, or speculators in the Bourse of Paris, who in their commercial transactions would act on such a principle; or rogues would never honour their acceptances, and trade would give place to brigandage. There has been some talk of an immediate armistice, and it is even asserted that Russia has sent orders to the Crimea for the suspension of hostilities; but we believe all such statements are premature or unfounded. If Russia have sent such orders, the Allies have no cause to display any extraordinary gratitude—for it is the elements which have suspended hostilities. This is one of the reasons why negotiation has been proposed; but, until a treaty of peace is signed, sealed, and guaranteed, it would be in the highest degree unwise in the Governments of Great Britain and France to consider the war at an end, or to intermit a single preparation for its vigorous prosecution when the elements shall permit.

Of course, if the Czar be insincere—if he merely seek to gain time, and pretend to negotiate, in the hope that dissensions from which he may profit may arise among the Powers of Europe, before the terms of a peace mutually acceptable to all parties can be agreed upon, every argument that was strong on the supposition of his sincerity is strengthened a thousandfold. It is safer and wiser to believe in his insincerity, until he himself remove all possibility of doubt by his actual concessions, and the guarantees he gives, than to believe in the good faith which never declared itself until it was treated as bad faith, and operated upon by sword and gun. Neither the Czar nor his friends can complain of a mistrust which the whole policy of his country for a hundred and fifty years has created and strengthened. Words and treaties have never been able to prove what Russia really meant. The passage of the Pruth and the massacre of Sinope were facts of which no one could mistake the meaning or the intention. It is much better to be accused by the Russians and pro-Russians of want of generosity than to be laughed at for want of common prudence and common sense. If the British Government stop the building of a single gun-boat on the faith of the new conferences; if it interfere to prevent the already-ordered destruction of the docks of Sebastopol; if it relax in the slightest degree its efforts for the continuance of the war—it will commit an error which may yet cost Europe seas of blood, and prepare the way for the downfall of England.

The Allies are willing to negotiate; but they know too much of Russian ambition and treachery to place any faith in negotiations commenced in Russian interest—not in theirs—and carried on by the friends of the Czar, for purposes which are only partially theirs, and in a less degree those of Turkey. No one is wicked enough to refuse to listen to terms of peace, whether proposed by Russia herself, or by Austria in her behalf; but in order that peace may result we must negotiate with arms in our hands. Peace is probable, because we have been successful in war. It will become more probable the more we show our determination neither to be bamboozled by diplomacy, nor to be dismayed at the probable cost or the possible penalties of war. Thanks to the events of 1855, we know both the strength and the weakness of Russia, and how to deal with her.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF MEDALS TO THE FRENCH ARMY.

THE review by the Emperor of the different corps of the Imperial Guard and Army which lately returned from the Crimea, of which we gave a brief notice last week, took place on the 15th inst. on the Place du Carrousel.

This military solemnity, as our readers are aware, had for its principal object the distribution of the commemorative medals granted by Queen Victoria to the French officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who took part in the glorious campaign in the Crimea. General Regnault de St. Jean d'Angleley had the chief command of the troops. General Mellinet commanded the infantry of the Imperial Guard, composed of two brigades—the first under the orders of General Manique, and consisting of the Engineers, Foot Chasseurs, and the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Voltigeurs; and the second, under those of General Clerc, formed of the Zouaves, the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Grenadiers, and the Regiment of Gendarmes. The artillery of the Guard was commanded by M. de Rochebournet. General Forey was at the head of his division, which was composed of the 20th, 39th, 50th, and 97th Regiments of the Line, formerly two brigades under the command of Generals Repond and Blanchard. The seventeen lines were composed as follows:—First line, a company of Engineers and a battalion of Foot Chasseurs; 2nd line, the 1st battalion of the 1st Voltigeurs and three companies of the 2nd; 3rd, three other companies of the 2nd battalion and the 3rd battalion of the same regiment; 4th, the 1st battalion of the 2nd Voltigeurs and three companies of the 2nd; 5th, three other companies of the 2nd battalion and the 3rd battalion; 6th, the 1st battalion of Zouaves and three companies of the 2nd; 7th, three other companies of the 2nd battalion and the 1st battalion of the 1st Grenadiers; 8th, the 2nd battalion of the 1st Grenadiers and three companies of the 3rd; 9th, three other companies of the 3rd battalion and the 1st battalion of the 2d Grenadiers; 10th, the 2nd battalion of the 2d Grenadiers and three companies of the 3rd; 11th, three other companies of the 3rd battalion and the 1st battalion of Gendarmes; 12th, the 2nd battalion of Gendarmes. The four following lines were formed of the 20th, 39th, 50th, and 97th Regiments of the Line; and the 17th line of batteries of artillery of the Imperial Guard.

At half-past twelve platoons of honour of the Guard repaired to the Tuilleries to bring out the colours, and at one o'clock the Emperor mounted his horse at the Pavillon de Flore. His Majesty was accompanied by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Napoleon, Marshals Vaillant and Magnan, Generals Canrobert and Niel, Admiral Lyons, General Martimprey, chief of the staff of Marshal Pelissier, General Espinasse, and a numerous and brilliant staff, among whom were a number of English and Sardinian superior officers. The cortege of the Emperor was partly composed of his military household, his Aides-de-Camp, and a detachment of Cent Gardes. At the same moment the Empress, followed by her Ladies of Honour, took her station on the balcony of the Pavillon de l'Horloge, and all the windows of the Palace were in an instant filled with ladies elegantly attired. The Emperor having reviewed the troops placed himself, with the Duke of Cambridge, before the Pavillon de l'Horloge, when the distribution of the medals commenced. They were handed to his Royal Highness by Colonel Franconier, First Aide-de-Camp to the Minister of War, and distributed them himself to the superior officers, one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one sub-Lieutenant of each regiment. The following address was delivered by his Royal Highness to the French army:—

Her Majesty the Queen of England has deigned to charge me with the office of presenting to the generals, officers, and rank and file of the French army—my brave and worthy comrades—these medals, as a token of the cordial esteem and friendship which exist between the two nations, and of the admiration which her Majesty and the English nation have felt in seeing the glorious feats of arms performed by the Army of the East. It was in the great combats of the Alma, Inkermann, and Sebastopol that the alliance of the two nations was ratified by the two armies. God grant that this great alliance may always continue for the advantage and glory of both nations! As for myself, my dear comrades, the honour which has been conferred on me is the greater that I have served with you, and have seen with my own eyes your bravery, your great military qualities, and the devotedness with which you have supported so many fatigues and so many dangers. I sincerely thank the Emperor for his kindness in allowing me to have the honour of distributing these medals in his presence.

The defile began about two o'clock, and each platoon, as it passed by, cried "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive l'Impératrice!" "Vive la Reine Victoria!" and "Vive le Duc de Cambridge!" the bands of the different regiments alternately playing the English and French national airs. The defile lasted until half-past three. There were about 22,000 men on the ground.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE sudden, and indeed unexpected, announcement of the result of Austria's mediations with Russia has produced here an effect differing considerably from the sensation with which it was, and still is, generally viewed in England, both by the press and the public. In France little or no doubt is entertained of the pacific result of the negotiations pending. From the moment that the news of Russia's acceptance of the proposed points became generally known the establishment of peace was accepted and announced as a fact accomplished, and the satisfaction felt was universal. So the matter is still regarded.

A new movement has been given to the official and other fêtes in consequence of the confidence which reigns on this subject. The ball of the Princess Mathilde, which took place on the evening of the day on which the announcement was made, was singularly animated and brilliant. The Emperor and Empress were present, and both, more especially the former, made no secret of the satisfaction the intelligence had caused them. Their Majesties retired towards midnight, but the ball was kept up with much spirit for some hours later. Among the guests were remarked the Queen Dowager of Spain and her daughter, whose marriage with the Roman Prince del Drago takes place this week at the Malmaison. The fête at the British Embassy, though arranged at so short a notice, was very brilliant. The Empress, though dressed with much magnificence, did not display her usual taste on this occasion: her gown was of blood-coloured velvet, decorated with quantities of gold trimming, which had a heavy, glaring effect. The Prince Jérôme, M. Fould, &c., have given grand dinners; and the ball at the Hôtel de Ville, which had been postponed, is now named for the 30th inst.

It appears that the attention of the Government has of late been called to the learned bodies, in consequence of a certain degree of opposition supposed to exist among them, and which some of their discourses are found to express. Indeed, contrary to a usage established for years, these have, in consequence of this tendency, been refused admission to the columns of the *Moniteur*. At the last lecture of M. Nisard some trouble was expected from the feeling entertained against the professor by the students, and a considerable body of the gendarmerie were on the spot, to prevent any outbreak. The lesson passed without interruption; but at the conclusion a certain degree of hostile feeling was exhibited by the students, who, however, dispersed without any positive disturbance.

An amusing trait of the ideas still existing on religious superstition in the provinces is evinced by a gift lately presented to the Empress. At a village in the department of Tarn-et-Garonne, the patroness, Saint Livrade, after whom the village is named, is supposed to possess marvellous gifts for the aid of women under her Imperial Majesty's present circumstances. The Curé has, therefore, in sober sadness, blessed a scarf in the Saint's church, and presented it, as an appropriate and efficacious offering, to the Empress.

The Théâtre Français has celebrated the anniversary of Molière with considerable éclat. "L'Ecole des Femmes," "La Critique de l'Ecole des Femmes," both works of the great dramatist, and "Les Muses de Molière," a series of dialogue verses, written by M. Philoxène Boyer, were presented at this occasion. At the Odéon, Tisserand repeated an *éloge* of Molière, written by M. Roger de Beauvoir, in excellent verse.

At the Théâtre Lyrique Hermann Léon has just entered in the part of *Falstaff*, in an opéra comique composed by M. Adolphe Adam: the music is light and graceful, and the work promises to have a tolerable success. It appears that the report cited in our last letter relative to the idea of replacing the François I. of Clésinger in the Court of the Louvre by a Venus de Milo, on a pedestal of malachite and gold, is a pure *canard*; and that, whatever may be the merits or demerits of the statue, or the opinion of the public thereon, it is a fixture, and will so remain.

We beg to inform all of our readers whom the fact may interest that the exquisite bouquet carried by Lady Emily Peel, on the occasion of her marriage, was made up in, and sent from, Paris, being offered as a respectful homage by an intimate friend of the bridegroom. The orange-trees that produced the blossoms of which it was principally composed were forced for some weeks previously, in order to solve the problem of orange-flowers in January.

At the late Court ball the Princess Mathilde was prevented by indisposition from making her appearance. The Princes Jérôme and Napoleon were present. The Empress was looking well, despite the trying effect of a yellow dress—a colour somewhat singularly chosen for a blonde—and seemed to be in good spirits, and suffering little from fatigue.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The news from the seat of war still continues without interest, nor is it likely to become more so while the peace negotiations are pending.

A letter from Kinburn of the 5th inst. announces the arrival in that fortress of the French General of Artillery Le Bouf. The General had visited the fortifications of the place and the means of defence afforded by the flotilla, and pronounced the place to be in a condition to repel successfully any attack of the enemy. According to the report of deserters, an attack was to be made on the 6th. The Russians, they stated, had concentrated 16,000 or 18,000 men at Otchakoff, and had assembled another corps close to the isthmus of Kinburn, so as to attack simultaneously on two points. The first was to cross over on the ice, with twenty pieces of artillery, while the other was to attack in front. In the night of the 3rd two English armed boats proceeded to reconnoitre the coast of the isthmus, on the Black Sea side; but, after exchanging a few shots with the Cossacks, they returned without having been able to ascertain the position or force of the enemy. In the morning of the 5th General Le Bouf proceeded in the *Milan* steamer on a reconnaissance in the same direction, but without discovering any large body of troops. On the 4th the *Phlegion* explored the coast of Otchakoff, and perceived no hostile movement. The garrison and flotilla, however, were on the *qui vive*, and well prepared, and determined to give the assailants a warm reception.

SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES BY RUSSIA.

The following statement, which appeared in the *Morning Post* of Wednesday, is contradicted by the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, who says, "It would be contrary to all diplomatic usage to issue such orders before the preliminaries of peace have been signed":—

We believe that authentic intelligence has been received from St. Petersburg that, on the 18th inst., the Emperor dispatched an order to the Russian Generals in the Crimea to suspend hostilities.

This important public step argues the sincerity of Russia's desire for peace—

a desire which we hope may soon be gratified on complete and sufficient conditions. At the same time, it is only right to observe that the acceptance by Russia of the Austrian ultimatum does not justify us in yet suspending hostilities. We must ourselves sign preliminaries of peace before we can abstain from acts of war. It is also but fair to remark that, at the present season of the year, an order to suspend hostilities, where none can go forward, amounts to a mere formality. As such, however, it is indicative of the anxiety which no doubt exists at St. Petersburg to commit us to a pacific course.

We cannot, however, forget that all that is now peaceful in the aspect of affairs is purely owing to our past successes and our present preparations, and that, if we would, be sure of peace, our wisest and safest course is to continue our active exertions until we sign with Russia the preliminaries of a treaty—a step which will, *ipso facto*, be succeeded by a cessation of hostilities.

So far as this country is concerned, it is satisfactory to know that the warlike preparations in our dockyards and factories are going forward with undiminished briskness. The *Globe*, which has the best opportunity of knowing, speaks very strongly on this point:—

Gun-boats are being completed and commissioned, mortars are being cast, recruits come in increased numbers in consequence of Lord Panmure's recent change in the bounty, drill and ride practice are carried on with assiduity, stores are being shipped off—all with an energy unsurpassed at any period of the war. As an indication that our preparations are not decreased in point of extent, we may mention that within the last few hours a requisition has been sent for transport accommodation for 4000 horses—nearly 60,000 tons of shipping. General Codrington's army, according to the latest accounts, numbered more than 54,000 men, in admirable condition and spirits, and were fast approaching the highest discipline. Some of the regiments, we hear, present a picture surpassing the most brilliant display of infantry movements that Hyde-park has witnessed for several years. This training and preparation for a campaign will go on until we know absolutely that there will be no campaign.

It is not necessary to be argued from all this that the Government distrusts the desire of Russia to come to terms in the interest of European security. A knowledge of her internal circumstances would perhaps suggest a different presumption. But Lord Palmerston has the honour of England in his keeping, and while meeting cordially the advances to peace, he will carefully provide for a possible failure of diplomacy, by bringing into full working order that machinery which, in conjunction with the arms of our allies, has hitherto been so instrumental in achieving success.

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The slow rate at which the diplomatic world moves is the subject of general complaint, but the public must make allowance for the distance between St. Petersburg and London. It is, no doubt, true that the telegraph enables us to send and receive messages in a few minutes, but diplomatic forms require something more elaborate and official than the telegraph can convey.

The Russian acceptance of the Austrian propositions as announced at Vienna, by telegraph, is no doubt an official fact, but not a fact diplomatically completed, the consequences of which may be legitimately followed out. All action must be suspended till the arrival of the courier from St. Petersburg, bearing a copy of the protocol signed by Counts Nesselrode and Esterhazy, and full powers for Prince Gortschakoff to sign the preliminaries of peace. The courier could not reach Vienna till Tuesday or Wednesday. The Austrian Cabinet will then have to dispatch to Paris and London copies of the document signifying Russia's acceptance. The English and French Governments will, in turn, have to send similar powers to their representatives at Vienna; so that the mere preliminaries of peace can hardly be signed in time for mention in her Majesty's Speech on Thursday next. In fact, considering the season of the year, it will be well if the distances can be got over so that all parties shall be in a condition to take the first united step towards peace by the 2nd or 3rd of February.

The *Independence Belge* of Tuesday, after stating that the signature of the preliminaries of peace can hardly be an accomplished fact before the 2nd of next month, says:—

We may take it for granted, that so soon as the representatives at Vienna of the interested Governments have received their full powers, they will place their signatures at the foot of the Austrian propositions, which, as already stated, will then constitute in themselves alone preliminaries of peace. This act accomplished—and it cannot be more than ten or twelve days' distant—a great step, we might almost say decisive, will have been made towards the complete re-establishment of harmony amongst all the States of Europe. We know already that its first consequence will be the immediate proclamation of a general armistice.

Then also, for the first time, the town will be named where will follow definitive negotiations. All the suppositions at present made on this subject are at least premature. The only thing which is positive is that Vienna is excluded from the list of cities where the Congress may be held, by this fact, that the preliminaries of peace will be signed in that capital; the diplomatic custom being that the preliminaries and the definitive treaty are never signed in the same city. Paris continues to have a good chance of being the theatre of these negotiations. That is all that can be said at present.

The *Independence*, as also some of the Paris papers, states that the specific terms implied in the fifth point of the Austrian propositions include the establishment of Consuls in the Russian ports of the Black Sea, a precise definition of the Russian frontiers in Asia, and the abandonment of the Aland Islands as a fortified post.

A Russian diplomatic circular has been issued in which Count Nesselrode makes known to the representatives of Russia in foreign countries the motive for accepting the propositions of Austria.

The circular declares that Russia has made concessions with a view to the re-establishment of peace, out of deference to the representations of friendly Powers, but not because the interest of Russia calls for the conclusion of that peace.

A despatch from "Berlin, Wednesday," says:—The acceptance of the Austrian propositions has been published officially at St. Petersburg. The announcement states that the chief condition is the neutralisation of the Black Sea, to be secured by a treaty between Russia and Turkey. Russia is ready to discuss the other points.

Letters from Vienna state that the Esterhazy propositions are interpreted by the Russian party there to permit the maintenance of Nicolaiéff, and also of the Russian forts on the Circassian coast, as well as the re-erection of those which have been partially destroyed.

TEXT OF THE PROPOSITIONS ACCEPTED BY RUSSIA.

The following is the text of the propositions accepted by Russia, as given in the official *Vienna Gazette* of Tuesday last. It does not differ greatly from what appeared in our publication of the 12th inst., but we have thought it worth while, on account of the great interest of the document at the present moment, to reproduce it according to the official text:—

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES—COMPLETE ABOLITION OF THE RUSSIAN PROTECTORATE.

Russia shall exercise no private right of protectorate over, or interference with, the internal affairs of the Danubian Principalities.

The Principalities shall preserve their privileges and immunities under the suzerainty of the Porte; and the Sultan, in concert with the contracting Powers, shall moreover grant to the Principalities, or confirm to them, an internal organisation conformable to the wants and wishes of the people.

In concert with the suzerain Power, the Principalities shall adopt a permanent system of defence, as demanded by their geographical situation. No impediment shall be offered to the extraordinary measures of defence they may be called on to take in order to repel all foreign aggression.

In exchange for the strong places and territories occupied by the Allied armies, Russia consents to a rectification of her frontier with European Turkey. That frontier thus rectified in a manner conformable to general interests, will start from the environs of Chotym, will follow the line of the mountains extending in a south-easterly direction, and will end in Lake Salzyk. The line shall be definitively regulated by general treaty, and the territory conceded shall return to the Principalities and to the suzerainty of the Porte.

THE DANUBE.

The freedom of the Danube and of its mouths shall be effectually ensured by European institutions, in which the contracting Powers shall be equally represented, with the exception of matters relating especially to the States contiguous with the river, which shall be regulated on the principles established by the Congress of Vienna on the matter of river navigation.

Each of the contracting Powers shall have the right of stationing one or two light vessels of war at the mouths of the river, to ensure the execution of the regulations relative to the freedom of the Danube.

THE BLACK SEA.

The Black Sea shall be neutralised. Open to the mercantile marine of all nations, its waters shall remain forbidden to the military marine.

Consequently, naval arsenals for war purposes shall neither be created nor maintained there.

The protection of the commercial and maritime interests of all nations shall be ensured in the respective ports of the Black Sea, by the establishment of institutions conformable to international law and the usages established in the matter.

The two Powers on its shores mutually engage themselves to maintain only the number of small vessels, of a defined force, necessary for the service of their coasts. The convention, that shall be concerted between them to this effect, after having been previously agreed to by the Powers signatory to the general treaty, shall be annexed to the said treaty and have the same force and value as if it formed an integral part of it. This separate convention is not to be annulled nor modified without the consent of the Powers signatory to the general treaty.

The closing of the Straits is to admit of the exception applicable to the vessels to be stationed as mentioned in the article preceding.

THE CHRISTIAN POPULATIONS SUBJECT TO THE PORTE.

The immunities of the Rayahs subject to the Porte shall be established without any derogation of the independence and dignity of the Sultan's Crown. Deliberations having taken place between Austria, France, Great Britain, and the Sublime Porte, for ensuring to the Christian subjects of the Sultan their religious and political rights. Russia shall be invited, at the peace, to associate herself to them.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS.

The belligerent Powers reserve the right that belongs to them, for the interest of Europe, of producing special conditions beyond the Four Guarantees.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

LORD PANMURE has obtained the sanction of the Crown to a measure of vital importance to the success of recruiting for the Army. A warrant will immediately be issued granting to soldiers the bounty-money without the deduction of a single shilling on account of necessities. An entire kit will be given to the soldier at the public expense.

The corps of the Royal Sappers and Miners now stationed at Brompton Barracks is 1400 strong, and every preparation is being made for their instruction in fieldworks and pontooning.

In consequence of an order from the Horse Guards the whole of the men of the depot of the 12th Regiment under nineteen years' service are to be immediately inspected at Chatham, previously to their embarkation for Australia, to join the head-quarters of their corps.

The Queen, who has manifested such sympathy for the sick and wounded by presents of various kinds, has again sought to lighten the monotony of hospital routine, by sending several copies of appropriate songs for the amusement of the inmates of the General Hospital, Fort Pitt.

A PETITION from the inhabitants of Cork to the Lords of the Admiralty points out the defenceless state of Cork harbour, and prays for "the formation of an arsenal, building-yards, steam-factory, and all the appliances of a comprehensive naval establishment."

Four brass guns, captured from the Sikhs, have arrived at the depot of the East India Company in London. They are seven feet long, and are intended to be placed on the granite platform at the base of the column erected in the grounds of Chelsea Hospital to the memory of the officers and men who fell at the battle of Chillianwallah.

On Saturday last an order from the Horse Guards was sent to the Commandant of the Battalion, Colonel Henry Jervis, for those men who volunteered from the Provisional Battalion into regiments now in the Crimea to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to join the depôts of those corps now in different parts of England and Ireland. The men, 129 in number, assembled on parade at Chatham Barracks in the evening, and received half their bounty-money, 10s., the other half to be paid them on their joining their depôts.

An experiment is now being tried at the proof-butt in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, to test the strength of a six-pounder gun made entirely of iron from the mines of Nova Scotia. The gun is about five feet long, and weighs above five cwt. It has been fired with a charge of 2 lb. of powder, and cylinders equal to the weight of 12 lb., or two shots; 18 lb., or three shots; up to 30 lb., or five shots. The experiment is to test the resisting properties of the iron; for which object it will be tried by successive charges until the charge reaches 90 lb. of an iron cylinder.

A CIRCULAR has been issued cancelling all the former "volunteering instructions" issued since the commencement of the war. It consists of revised special instructions for carrying into effect the volunteering from the Militia, and effects many improvements of detail on the old plan, which was frequently attended with much confusion and inconvenience. The volunteering is to be superintended by a steady (if possible, a Field) officer, with a surgeon, whose approval will be final. The height must be 5 ft. 6 in. for the Guards, 5 ft. 5 in. for the cavalry, and 5 ft. 4 in. for the infantry. Volunteers will, if over nineteen years of age, be allowed to reckon one-half their Militia service (over 18) as Line service, and their good-conduct pay, &c., is to be preserved to them equally as if they remained in the Militia.

A NUMBER of schooners and other craft have arrived at Woolwich Arsenal-wharf since Saturday last, and are discharging large cargoes of shot from the Scotch foundries. Great activity continues to prevail in the whole of the departments there. The building of the paper-factory is progressing rapidly, and it has received a portion of the machinery.

A WARRANT has been issued from the office of the Director-General stating that the pay of all Acting Assistant-Surgeons, which has hitherto been 10s. a day, is to be increased to 11s. 6d., and that the order for the sum of £40, which was to have been given to each at the end of two years' service, is forthwith to be cancelled, in consideration of such increased pay. By the former warrant the £40 was only to have been given to such as had passed some of their time on foreign service, but the present warrant makes no distinction.

It is the intention of the authorities of the War Department to raise a company of the Royal Sappers and Miners and equip them as drivers for the service of that corps when in the field; so that when any movement takes place the whole of the stores belonging to that branch of the service, such as the pontoon-bridges and trenching tools, may be conveyed with them; it having been found, when the troops landed in the Crimea, that horses and carriages could not be obtained for that purpose. To make preparation for this additional force the Artillery stables on the north side of the barracks at Chatham will undergo great alterations.

A NAVAL PATRIOTIC ASSOCIATION has been formed at Sunderland, with the view of raising a sum of money for the purpose of manning one or more of the gun-boats building on the Wear. A meeting of the members was held on Monday, when it was resolved to offer a bounty of £10 to each volunteer.

No relaxation has taken place at Portsmouth, in consequence of any probabilities of peace that may exist, in the equipment of the line-of-battle ships, gun-boats, mortar-vessels, or in other departments bearing on the war. Everything goes on as actively as before.

REWARD OF ARCTIC DISCOVERY.—The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having, by a proclamation of the 7th March, 1855, offered—1st. A reward of £20,000 to any party or parties who, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, should discover and relieve the crews of her Majesty's ships *Erebus* and *Terror*; and, 2nd. The sum of £10,000 to any party or parties who, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, should discover and effectually relieve any of the crews of her Majesty's ships *Erebus* and *Terror*, or should convey such intelligence as should lead to the relief of such crews, or any of them; and 3rd. The sum of £10,000 to any party or parties who, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, should, by virtue of his or their efforts, first succeed in ascertaining their fate: Hereby give notice, that, Dr. Rae having claimed to be entitled to the reward of £10,000 under the terms of the third paragraph of such proclamation, they will proceed within three months from the date hereof to adjudicate on such claim, and that all persons who by virtue of such proclamation deem themselves entitled to the whole or any part of the reward in question must prefer their claims within such time, after the expiration of which no claim will be entertained.—*London Gazette*.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO FRANCE.—It will be recollected that the Municipal Council of Boulogne, in the early part of October last, voted unanimously the sum of 12,000fr. (£480) towards the erection of a column, in the neighbourhood of the port, to commemorate the landing of Queen Victoria upon the soil of France, as a guest to the Emperor of the French. It now appears that this mode of commemorating the Royal Visit has been abandoned; for at the last meeting of the Municipal Council of Boulogne, a few days ago, it was resolved that the 12,000 francs so voted to be appropriated (according to the suggestion of the Government) to the striking off of a considerable number of medals, to be distributed among the leading statesmen of both countries, and to be sold to such amateurs as wished to have a memento of that auspicious event. His Imperial Majesty has recommended the following model for those medals:—On one side, the effigy of the Emperor; and on the other side, an allegorical representation of the town of Boulogne, having the column of Napoleon on the right, and the Royal yacht, the *Victoria* and *Albert*, on the left. The town inscribes upon a slab the date of the Queen's arrival (18th of August, 1855). On the base of the allegorical figure of the town will be placed an escutcheon, containing the arms of Boulogne. The legend will consist of these words—"The Emperor receives the Queen of England at Boulogne." The exergue will exhibit the following words:—"In memory of the 18th and 27th of August, 1855. The Municipal Council of Boulogne-sur-Mer." Two medals will be struck in gold for presentation to the Emperor and the Queen, 100 in silver for the Ministers, Ambassadors, and other high functionaries of the Government, and 1000 in bronze. It was further resolved, after a lively discussion at the Municipal Council, that the twenty-seven members of such council should be entitled to receive a silver medal each.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A FEW days will bring the opening of Parliament, and Lord Palmerston's circular, apprising his supporters that business of very great importance will be brought on immediately, may have more significance in it than is usually contained in that Government formality. Of the importance of the subjects which should occupy Parliament there can be no doubt; but whether the time-honoured custom of conveying a serious discussion into a faction fight will be abandoned upon the present occasion remains to be seen. Certain sanguine politicians have always a great and instinctive interest in the meeting of the House, and in its probable doings; but towards mid-session this feeling has subsided, and, by the time the papers begin to announce that the grouse are likely to be healthy, the most confiding "outsiders" are as ready to dismiss the senators as they are to go. We shall be very happy if circumstances permit us to record a different state of things in August next. That we may look forward to some spirited debating there is no doubt; for there is the fall of Kars, to be laid upon Lord Panmure, and shifted to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe; and then Mr. Disraeli has to show that the Ministers have fulfilled the prediction with which he closed last Session, namely, that during the recess they would make a shameful peace; and then Lord John Russell, who has long since forgiven himself his Vienna "mistakes," will again put forward his statesmanship; and then the Peace party are pledged to embarrass the Minister; and then there is the battle between Sir C. Napier and Sir J. Graham; and there is the rebellion in India to be explained by Mr. Vernon Smith; and the Central American difficulty by anybody who understands it—all "good business," as the actors say; to leave out smaller battles, as the question of the Peerage for life, and the road through St. James's Park, and the Sunday dispute, and the new translation of the Scriptures. There is plenty to say, and plenty of people to say it.

Most readers may recollect, in "Smollett's England," that the historian takes notice of a certain period, early in last century, when a singular number of crimes, of a dark character, were committed; and he instances several strange murders, and is half-inclined to attribute them to a species of epidemic. What would he say to the present condition of England? Murder upon murder is reported in the daily journals, and we are within the correction of our readers if we exaggerate in saying that scarcely a day within the last fortnight but has brought news of some such act of more or less hideousness. Some days have recorded two. Some of these have been the result of sheer brutality, some of madness; some, we shudder to say, of want (as where a woman destroyed her child from absolute fear of its being starved, and awaits her execution), and some of private vengeance. The murder of the attorney near Bedford-row was evidently the act of an insane person, irritated into frenzy by what he conceived to be personal wrong. Mr. Bright has taken the opportunity of entering an illogical protest against capital punishment, and with the habitually wretched reasoning of men of his order, reasoning that almost drives to anger those whose intellect has been properly educated, instances a doubtful case or two where the spectacle of a hanging has not deterred from murder, in proof that thousands of ruffians are not restrained from the last outrage by the terror of the last punishment. The trash has been talked so often as to be stale, and refuted so often as to be impertinent.

The wilful murderer (according to a coroner's jury) in the Rugeley case has been brought to London, more, it would appear, for the purpose of creating a sensation, than with any legal object; for, while he was actually within the walls of the court, counsel stated that he was not to be "called." The determination was changed, however, and Palmer was placed in the witness-box, where his mother had previously stood, to announce that forgeries of her name had been committed; and he then declared that his wife—the woman whom the inquest reports that he slew—had forged his mother's name. His self-possession was simply brutal. He even corrected the counsel, who asked, "Your wife?"—"She was my wife!" No person in court believed the statement, nor will it be credited elsewhere. Mr. Serjeant Wilkins began to earn his hire by a blatant philippic against the press; but it was too clumsy even to be smiled at, under the circumstances of the case. He did not have recourse to any hydraulic display—probably reserving his tears for the trial.

The election for Cambridge University, vacant by the death of Mr. Goulburn, lies between the Hon. George Denman and Mr. Walpole, the Opposition leader. The former is a man of great ability, *tam Marte quam Mercurio*, having taken high honours, and being also eminently successful in athletic pursuits. He declares himself unfettered by party, and of politics Liberal, but Conservative. Mr. Walpole justifiably appeals solely to his antecedents. The choice will most probably fall upon the late Home Secretary; though, were the decision left to the residents, Mr. Denman would be returned—and this would be preferable for the reason that the House has already the advantage of Mr. Walpole's courtesy and learning, so that Mr. Denman would be a clear gain. On the other hand, Mr. Samuel Warren, the novelist, is to offer himself for Midhurst, for which Mr. Walpole sat. A still more remarkable Parliamentary incident has marked the week. Mr. Macaulay retires from the representation of Edinburgh, on the ground that his health will not permit him to discharge his duties. He has taken so very little share in the proceedings since his last election—we doubt whether he has risen four times, except to present petitions—that the great writer will scarcely be missed in debate, and no one will reasonably grudge him to the enduring and honourable labour for which he finally resigns political life.

Railway revolution is at hand, and it is wise in those immediately concerned to see that changes come from within and not from without. A very important meeting has been held, Mr. Malins in the chair, for considering a plan for better management than has hitherto marked these undertakings. The meeting was scarcely more than a preparatory or preliminary one, but much good sense was uttered, and the subject addressed itself, not to one or two lines, but to all, and to all persons engaged, either as capitalists or as the executive. The chairman stated, on the authority of Mr. Stephenson, that the number of individuals engaged in connection with our railways amounted to 90,000.

The American House of Representatives had, up to the last advice, continued without a Speaker, and continued also to refuse to receive the Presidential Address. Some compromise will have to be effected; and we are apprised that Mr. Pierce still hopes to avail himself of a possible dissension with England, not upon the last story, but upon the older question of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, to regain his waning fortune. The good sense of the two nations has been too prominently manifested of late to justify any particular apprehension from this unworthy manoeuvring. The question itself, however, is not so unimportant as it has been represented, nor can England surrender her rights except under far more stringent guarantees than it is apparently within the power or the will of the present Presidential Government to grant against piracy and filibustering. The matter may, and should be, amicably discussed; and, as Sir Francis Head reminds the Americans, England has good-naturedly submitted to a good deal of insult and injustice from individual States, including the "repudiating" defaulters, and therefore is entitled to expect at least as much good humour as she has displayed, when the Union itself is her antagonist at the Council Board. Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer (who, it is said, is to succeed Lord Stratford de Redcliffe at Constantinople) is alleged to have rather outwitted the American diplomatist. We care less than nothing for such successes, and only wish that a question of interest to civilisation may be settled by the two great nations in a fit and permanent manner.

Mr. Jos. . . . author of the "Dictionary of Dates," to whose case and of £25 a year reference was made last week, has died 43d. per day is saved. Perhaps Government is

looking round for some other meritorious literary man whom it would like to insult. We dare say that such a man might be found. If, instead of pensioning men who have deserved well, Government would employ them, and not reserve all honourable and lucrative employments for mere barristers of six years' standing—happy men, who seem to be eligible for anything and everything—the country would be better served, and the Court saved some unmerited obloquy.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF ERROLL.

The Dowager Countess of Erroll, formerly the Lady Elizabeth Fitzclarence, was sister of the late and aunt of the present Earl of Munster. She was born the 18th Jan., 1801; and was married, the 4th Dec., 1826, to Walter George Hay, seventh Earl of Erroll, K.T., by whom—who died the 19th April, 1846—she leaves issue one son, William Harry, eighteenth and present Earl of Erroll, and three daughters, two married—viz., Viscountess Campden and Lady Agnes Duff, and one unmarried, the Lady Alice Hay. Lady Erroll died on the 16th inst., at Edinburgh, while on her journey from the seat of her son-in-law, Mr. Duff, in Scotland, to attend the sick-bed of her brother, Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF STRADBROKE.

CHARLOTTE MARIA, Dowager Countess of Stradbroke, was daughter of Abraham Whittaker, Esq., of Lyston House, Herefordshire, and was born the 17th March, 1769; she became, on the 23rd Feb., 1792, the second wife of John first Earl of Stradbroke, by whom (who died the 17th August, 1827) she had three daughters and six sons: three sons survive her; viz., John Edward Cornwallis, present and second Earl of Stradbroke, Rear-Admiral the Hon. Henry John Rous, and the Hon. William Rufus Rous. The Countess Dowager of Stradbroke died on the 15th inst., at her town residence, 33, Hertford-street, Mayfair.

THE HON. MRS. VILLIERS.

THIS lady was the Hon. Theresa Parker, daughter of John, first Lord Boringdon, by his second wife, the Hon. Theresa Robinson, second daughter of Thomas, first Lord Grantham. She was born on the 22nd of September, 1775, and was married to the Hon. George Villiers, third son of the first Earl of Clarendon, on the 17th of April, 1798; and by him, who died in March, 1827, she had a numerous family, of whom survive the present Earl of Clarendon, the Right Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P., the Hon. and Rev. H. Montagu Villiers, and the Lady Maria Theresa, who was married, first to Thomas Henry Lister, Esq., who died the 5th June, 1842; and, secondly, to the Right Hon. Sir George Cornwall Lewis. The Hon. Mrs. Villiers died on the 12th inst. at the Grove, the seat of her son, the Earl of Clarendon, near Watford.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

Lord Palmerston has issued the following circular to members of the House of Commons understood to be favourable to his governmental policy:—

Downing-street, Jan. 12, 1856.
Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that the meeting of Parliament having been fixed for Thursday, the 31st of this month, public business of great importance will be brought forward without delay after Parliament has met. I beg leave to express my earnest hope that it may be consistent with your convenience to be in attendance in the House of Commons at the opening of the Session.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient and faithful servant, PALMERSTON.

THE Lord President of the Council, Earl Granville, as leader of the Ministerial party in the House of Lords, gives a full-dress banquet on the 30th, to which the following Peers are invited:—The Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Wellington, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl of Harrowby, the Earl Spencer, the Earl of Bessborough, the Marquis of Breadalbane, Viscount Sydney, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Lord Panmure, Lord Foley, Lord Wodehouse, and the mover and seconder of the Address.

THE ROAD THROUGH ST. JAMES'S PARK.—On Saturday last several of the residents in the immediate vicinity of St. James's Park—including Lord Montagu, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Keating, M.P., Mr. Atherton, M.P., Mr. Whateley, Q.C., Mr. Turner, Mr. Tomlinson, Mr. Tustin, Mr. Lavie, and Mr. Radcliffe—had an interview by appointment with Sir George Grey, at the Home-office, relative to the contemplated road across the inclosure of St. James's Park. Mr. Keating stated in detail, on behalf of the gentlemen present, the strong objections entertained by the inhabitants in the neighbourhood and the public generally to any encroachment upon the inclosure of the park, the source of so much enjoyment to so many of their families and the public at large, and asked to be informed whether the interference apprehended had been resolved upon by her Majesty's Government? Sir George Grey said, in answer, that the necessity for increased accommodation to the public caused by the present inconvenient approach to the park through the Stable-yard, had engaged the attention of the Government; that several plans had been suggested at different times, including that to which reference had been made, in order to obviate the inconvenience complained of, but that up to the present time no plan had been decided on; that there would be full opportunity given for the discussion of those plans, and ample time for objecting to any of them; and that the preparation of the plans did not imply any foregone conclusion on the part of the Government.

GLYCERINE.—On Wednesday evening Mr. G. F. Wilson, F.R.S., read to the Society of Arts a very interesting paper on the "Manufactures of Price's Patent Candle Company," in which he popularly illustrated the various chemical elements of the raw materials of candle-making, and more especially the nature and uses of Glycerine. Mr. Wilson stated that, in photography, Mr. Maskelyne, of Oxford, has made a number of promising experiments with distilled glycerine, and Mr. J. D. Llewellyn made about two hundred carefully-registered trials, and continues to be persuaded that it will prove a most valuable photographic agent. In conjunction with honey it works admirably, and is thus an important improvement on Mr. Shadbolt's process, rendering the preservation film far more soluble in water than the honey alone. Among the medical applications, Mr. Wilson mentioned that in Edinburgh a tablespoonful, three times a day, has been given with great success for an affection of the mucous membrane. Mr. Wilson's account of the several manufacturing processes was heard with great attention. To show the great extent of the company's operations, he stated that, in 1840, they employed seventy-four men and ten boys, and manufactured about twenty tons of cocoa-nut candles, value £1590, and about twelve tons of stearic and composite candles, value £1227, during the month. In 1855 the company employed 1098 men and 1191 boys and girls, and manufactured of stearic and composite candles and night-lights about 707 tons value £79,500, in the month.

GAROTTE ROBBERY AND ATTEMPT TO MURDER.—About one o'clock on Thursday morning, as Mr. E. C. Clarkson, barrister, of Cleveland-square, Paddington, was returning home along the Bayswater-road, having a carpet-bag and an umbrella in his hands, he was suddenly seized hold of by a man who came behind him, and who afterwards grasped his throat with both his hands. Another man then came in front of him, and made a snatch at the Albert gold chain which was suspended from his neck, and to which was attached a gold watch in his waistcoat pocket. The chain broke, but he succeeded in taking possession of the watch with a portion of the chain. While the one robber was doing this Mr. Clarkson struggled with the other, who called out to his companion to take the pistol out of his pocket and shoot Mr. Clarkson. The latter got free, however, and having attacked them with his fists, they both ran away. He pursued and overtook them, and, by the aid of a policeman, succeeded in capturing one of them. The prisoner, who calls himself Edward Basley, was brought up at Marylebone Police-court on Thursday; and, after a short examination, was remanded for a week.

THE BEDFORD-ROW MURDER.—The adjourned inquest on Mr. Waugh, the solicitor, was brought to a close on Wednesday last, when the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Charles Weston; who has been committed to Newgate for trial. It was stated on behalf of the prisoner that his father destroyed himself in a state of mental derangement; that his uncle destroyed himself; that his aunt died in a lunatic asylum; and that he had also committed acts which proved he was insane.

THE TELEGRAPH IN TURKEY.—It is now contemplated to make a telegraphic line by Adrianople to Belgrade, and then branches to Salonica and to Oatario, connecting thus all the provinces of European Turkey by means of the electric wire. Another project is a line from Constantinople to Alexandria. The Turkish Government will have to lay down the wire to the entrance of the Dardanelles; thence the Suez-Indian Telegraph Company will do it.

A SUSPECTED RUSSIAN FRIGATE.—The barque *Dido*, of Cape Town, which arrived here yesterday, reports the following remarkable circumstance:—"Krau Hondelip, outer roads, bound to Swansea, second day after leaving was fired at by a large frigate; we hoisted the American ensign, when she kept away after a large ship to the westward of us, and it coming thick weather we could not see, but distinctly heard the report of cannon." The captain is of opinion it was a Russian, mounting about sixty guns.—*St. Helena Herald*, Nov. 22.

S K E T C H E S I N J A P A N .



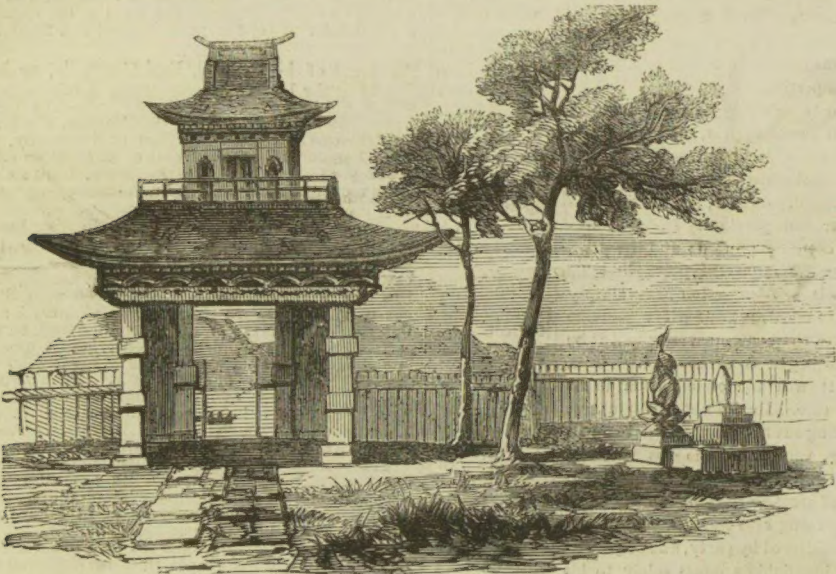
GATEWAY AND BELFRY AT HAKODADE.

ON the 9th October, 1855, the convention made between the Queen of England and the Emperor of Japan, regulating the admission of British ships into two of the Japanese harbours, was ratified; and though it does

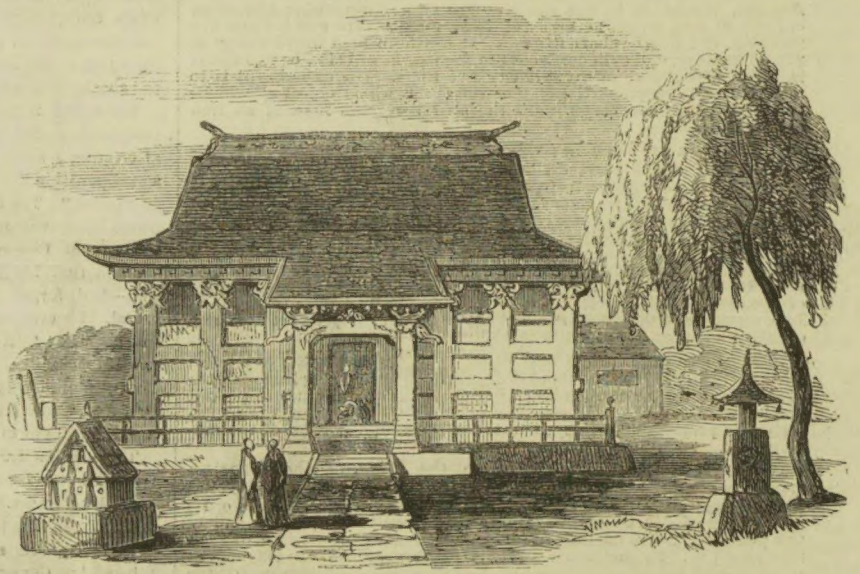
not admit us to trade, or confer any commercial privilege, but merely gives us access to ports of refuge to effect repairs and obtain fresh water, provisions, and such other articles as may be necessary to the health of

the crews and the safety of the vessels, still the event is memorable, and may be the precursor of more important advantages.

In 1612 the English East India Company, on the invitation of William



TEMPLE AT HAKODADE.

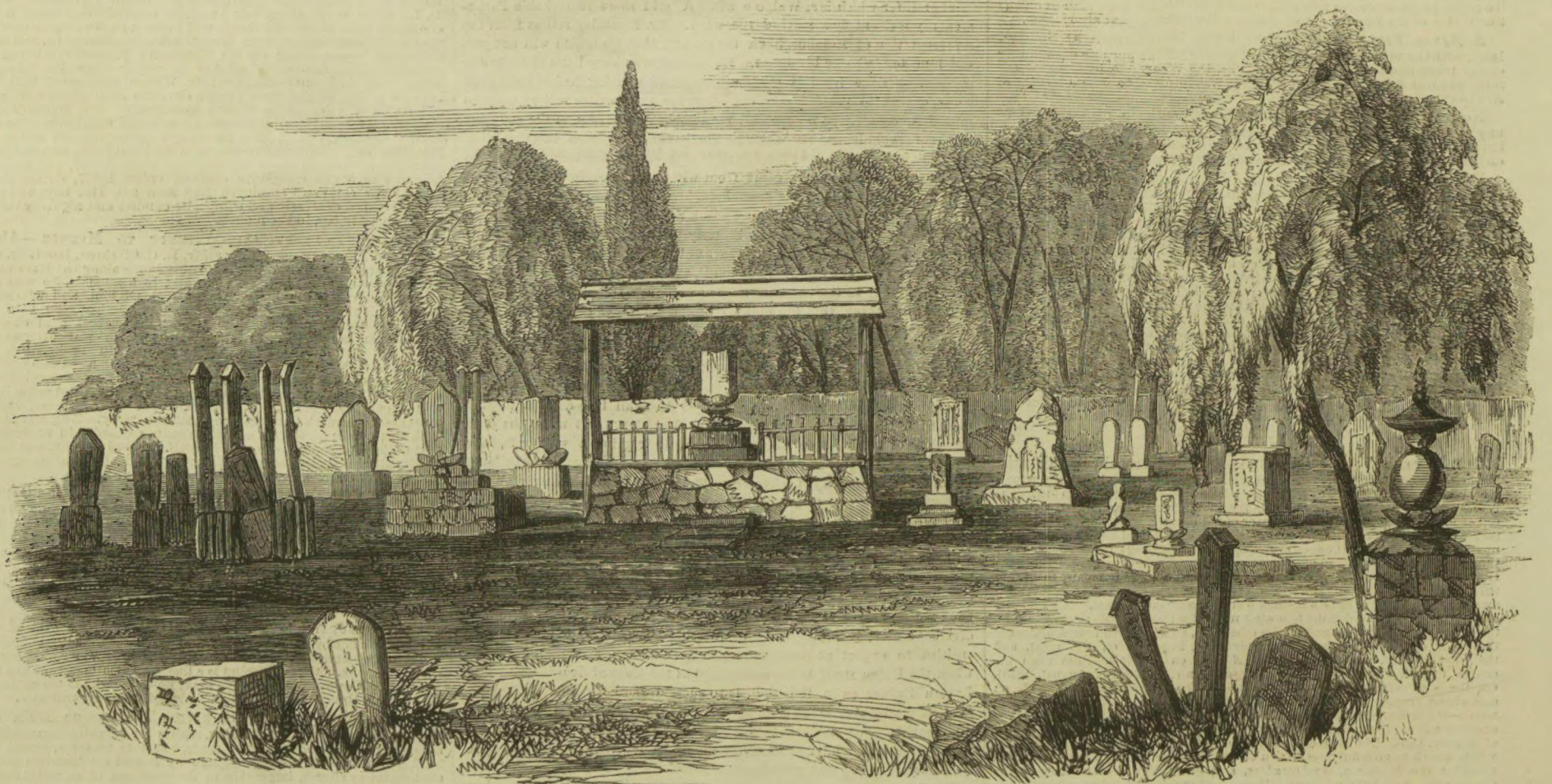


TEMPLE AT HAKODADE.

Adams, a native of Jellingham, in the county of Kent, and a pilot by profession, made a successful effort to trade with Japan. In 1598 Adams engaged to pilot a fleet belonging to the Dutch India Com-

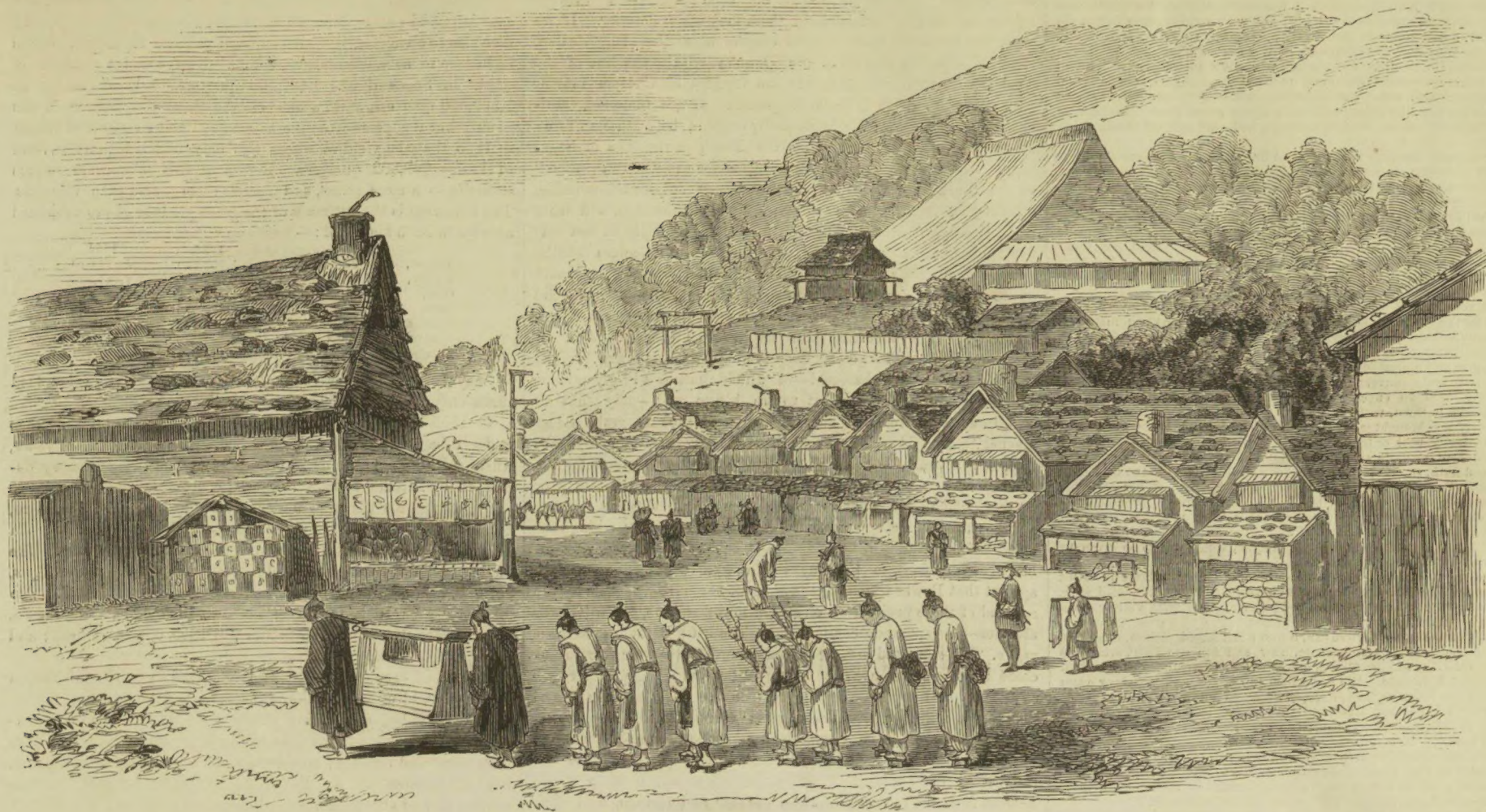
pany; it was scattered by tempests, but on the 20th April, 1600, Adams made the coast of Japan, and anchored at the port of Bingo. His ship alone escaped the perils of the voyage; and, out of a crew of twenty-four

only six could perform their duty, the others being ill or completely exhausted by the hardships they had undergone. A Jesuit came on board and acted as interpreter. He was either a Spaniard or a Portuguese



TEMPLE AND BURIAL-PLACE AT HAKODADE.

S K E T C H E S I N J A P A N .



STREET IN HAKODATE, AND FUNERAL PROCESSION.

and on his report the King of Bingo acted most humanely to the sick sailors, who were conveniently lodged on shore, while Adams was sent to the Emperor, on whom he made a most favourable impression. Adams was a man of considerable ability and acquirements. At the command of the Emperor he built a ship of eighty tons, which afforded great satisfaction, and also gave his Majesty lessons in geometry and mathematics. The grateful pupil provided most liberally for his teacher, bestowing on him a large salary, a manor, and a hundred slaves or servants to cultivate the land; but he would never allow Adams to quit the country. Adams, however, obtained the release of the captain of his ship, and the crew; by whom he sent letters to the English, many of which are curious and instructive. He describes the geography of the country, the character of the people, their trading products, and says, "If a ship come from England to traffic at Japan, not any nation should receive a better welcome; if any ship come near the easternmost part of Japan, let them inquire for me. I am called in the Japan tongue 'Augin Samma,' by that name I am called all the sea-coast along. Nor fear to come near the mainland, for you shall have barks with pilots to carry you where you will."

On the 12th June, 1613, the ship *Clove* arrived from England, with a letter from King James, and presents for the Emperor of Japan. It was commanded by Captain Saris, who was called the Company's General. A treaty, or charter of privileges, was obtained without the least difficulty, and a factory opened. The *Clove* anchored at Firando, and was visited by King Foyne and his nephew, accompanied by Adams. The King of Firando sent Captain Saris to Jeddo, the capital, and there the Emperor ratified the treaty with the East India Company, and addressed a most friendly letter to King James.

The Dutch became jealous of the English, and, as they had a superior naval force in those waters, did not hesitate to act as buccanniers, seizing our ships, plundering the cargoes, and murdering their crews. Their Admiral, Westerwood, even offered a premium for the slaughter of the English. Adams died on the 16th May, 1620, and with him we lost our best friend. He had enjoyed in a higher degree than any other Christian the favour of two Emperors: he had at all times access to them, when many Japan Kings could not obtain an audience. In the year of Adams's death arrived the *James Royal*, of 1000 tons, direct from London; and the admiration excited among the Japanese by so large a vessel inflamed the most envious feelings among the Dutch and Portuguese, for the Emperor and Royal family paid the captain the distinguished honour of going on

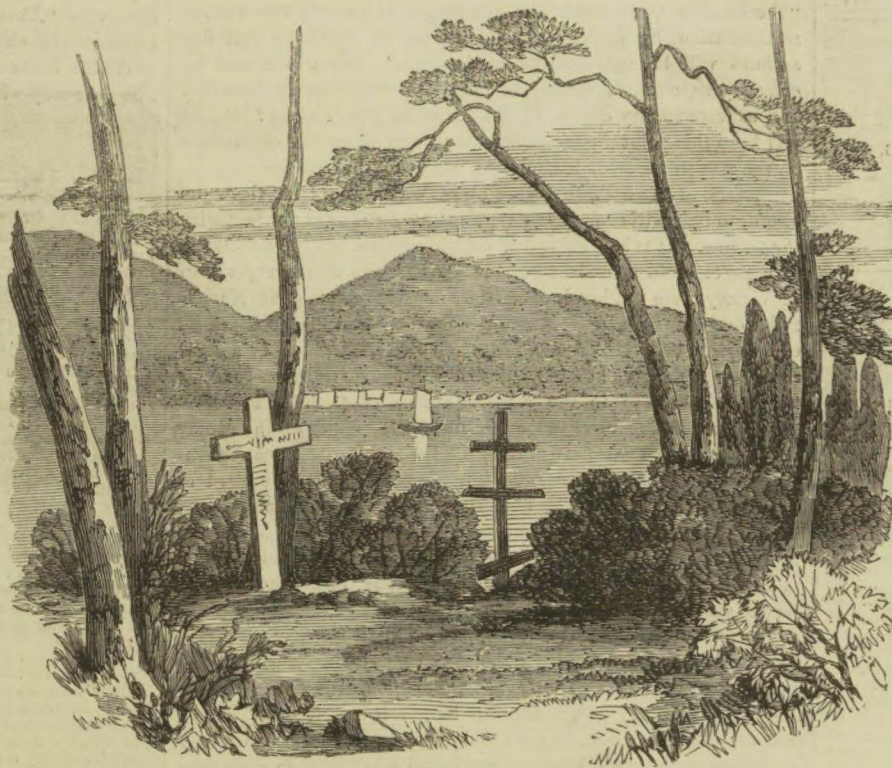
board. But the actual disruption of commercial intercourse between England and Japan is traceable to the reign of Charles II. England was in alliance with Portugal, and the Portuguese had been expelled from

the Dutch; and their officers represented to the Emperor that King Charles, having entered into a treaty with the Dutch, violated it, and with France, and then made war on Holland, although the Dutch and English were of the same religion, while the French and Portuguese were of an opposite religion. They then asked the Emperor what faith he could repose in the English who had acted in so perfidious a manner, and who had moreover decapitated one of their Kings? These statements had great weight with the Emperor, whose moral feelings were rudely shocked by this narrative, more especially by the fact that a people should ally itself with people of another religion, to slaughter their co-religionists. From that day his friendship cooled; the English were soon expelled, and ever since the Dutch have been in the ascendant at Japan. It may be as well to give the words of the prohibitory edict which was served on the Captain of the English ship *Return*, in the year 1673:—"Inasmuch as the King of England was married to a daughter of the King of Portugal, their greatest enemy, they could not admit the English to reopen the factory, and for no other reason."

In 1796 Captain Broughton visited the Japanese Islands on a voyage of discovery; and in 1808 the *Phaeton* frigate went to the same waters to intercept Dutch vessels trading between Batavia and Japan, and obtained wood and water. In 1811 Sir Stamford Raffles, being Governor of Java, attempted to renew the trade; and in 1818 Captain Gordon sailed from Bengal to the Bay of Jeddo, and anchored in the bay of Shimada. He remained there seven days in negotiation; at the expiration of which time he was told that permission to trade could not be granted, and ordered to sail with the first fair wind.

The population is estimated by Sir Stamford Raffles at 25,000,000; by Captain Gordon, at 30,000,000; others raise it to 35,000,000;—who are divided into eight classes. The empire of Japan is formed of three separate islands, called Nippon, Kewsew or Kiusin, and Sikof. It also embraces such of the Kurile Islands as are not yet occupied by the Russians. The largest is called Matsmai, also known as the twenty-second Kurile—the Russian islands numbering from one to twenty-one. Miyako is the capital, seated on a branch of the river Yado on the island of Nippon. Its walls are said to be ten leagues in circuit; and its greatest curiosity is a bronze idol, so huge in its dimensions that a man, with his arms extended, cannot encompass the thumb of the right hand.

By the kindness of a Correspondent, we are enabled to append a few

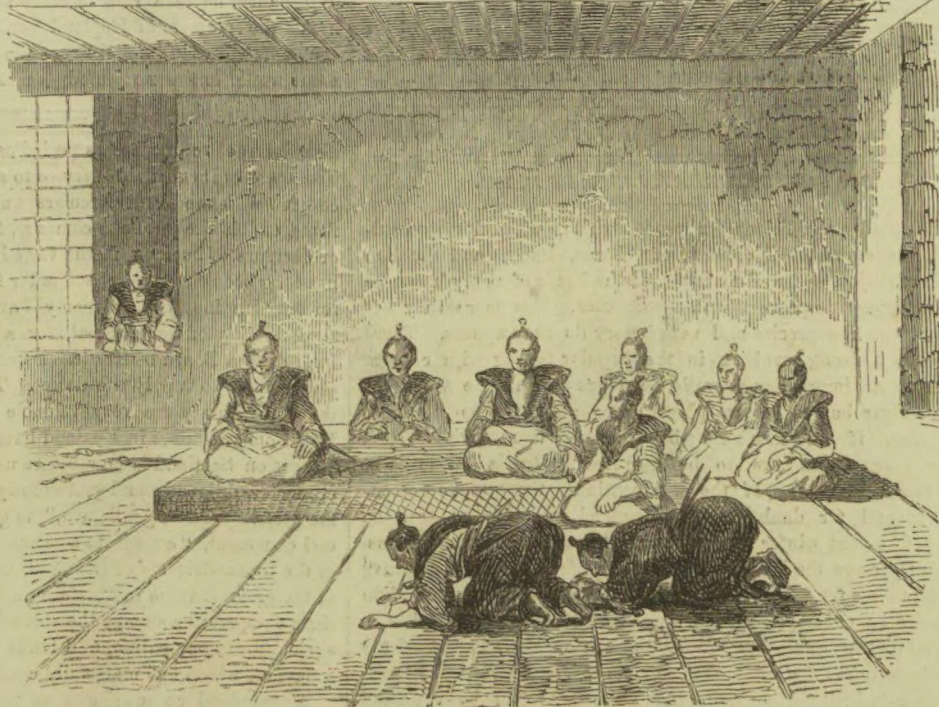


ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN BURIAL-GROUND, AT NAGASAKI, SECURED BY TREATY, NOVEMBER, 1855.

Japan because some of their missionaries had been detected in attempts to change the religion of the country, for which they were crucified by the King of Firando. About this time we had a naval war with



JAPANESE OFFICIALS ON BOARD "THE WINCHESTER," AT NAGASAKI.



OMEDSK AND OBUNGO, AT NAGASAKI.

details of the ratification of the Treaty, contained in a letter from one of the officers of H.M.S. *Winchester*—

Nagasaki, Oct. 10th, 1855.

After some preliminary discussions it was arranged that the ratifications should be exchanged on the 9th of October; and we yesterday proceeded to the city in *Tartar*, steam tender to the flag-ship, Admiral, Captains, and various officers to the number of twenty-one. We started about ten, when the Japanese officials came on board to conduct us. We passed quickly through the pretty scenery described last year; received the usual honours from the Dutch steam corvette, and a visit from her commander; saw the Japanese steamer with her new flag (white with red ball)—a recent present through an old acquaintance of ours as Dutch Loembing; and anchored off the landing-place.

We officers got on shore to receive the Admiral, and joined our Japanese Court friends; we then proceeded with rather less state than last year to the Governor's house, where we found the Deputy-Governor waiting to receive the Admiral, and to conduct him to the presence of the Commissioners. In the audience-chamber were ranged the old and new Governors, and the old and new Ometakia. Friendly greetings were exchanged, and inquiries duly made for the health of the Queen, Admiral, and officers. We then retired to an outer room, which was enlarged to suit our party. Tea and pipes, with the usual box of sweets, were placed before us: the latter we marked with our names, for future use.

The audience-chamber being made ready for the great ceremony by a double dais for the Grandees and arm-chairs for us, and smoking materials being arranged for the use of everybody, we were ushered in, and found the four principal personages seated, or rather squatted, on the ground. My Sketch will give you a good idea of the figures they presented. The conference began, and after some conversation our ratified treaty was produced in the simplest style from an envelope, and the seal and subscribed name of Clarendon shown to them, with a little explanation thereof. Meanwhile, the Japanese treaty was brought in by their officials. A large box was opened, and the silk-covered book or treaty carefully unwrapped from its crape cover inside a lacquered case, its silken cords loosed; and all being ready, our Admiral stood forth, surrounded by his officers, and tendered to the Governor, Arai Iwamoto Kani, the treaty of friendship in the name of her Majesty; and the Governor of Nagasaki, on the part of the Emperor, presented the Japanese version. Several well-turned speeches were made by the new Governor, and we had the satisfaction of seeing the affair successfully closed. We then withdrew to make room for the banquet, which was to be given by the Governors to the Admiral and officers.

First came pipes and tea, then a procession of minor officials in Court dresses, bearing little tables or trays with covered cups and lacquered ware, various saucers, trays, cups, chopsticks, and paper napkins, with a silver spoon and fork (of Dutch manufacture) for each person. The food consisted of rice, fish soup, with mushrooms, stewed fish, a whole fish baked, pickles, omelettes, raw fish with vinegar and pomegranate, raw salt fish and jelly, artichokes and cassada; cake, hot and sweet, was served round. Altogether the repast did not equal that at Hakodade. We had a final cup of tea, and withdrew again, by a hint from the Japanese interpreter, in order to allow the display of the presents for the Admiral and officers to take place, and the Admiral was to touch them in mark of acceptance. The round of ceremonies being now finished, we thanked them for our hospitable entertainment; we made our farewell bows and walked smartly down to our boats.

The presents came on board in the evening: there was a large lacquered bowl and cover, a tray and case, with some specimens of silk and crape, for the Admiral and officers who had been present at the conference.

The Sketches I have sent you will give you a good idea of the sort of country and the public buildings among the Japanese. The burial-grounds and temples present a peculiarly neat appearance from the sea; and the sketches of the figures convey an adequate impression of the appearance which these singular people present. Their loose hanging sleeves are stitched at the lower part, and that makes a good pocket, in which they put their handkerchiefs, fans, or paper.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 27.—Sexagesima Sunday. Mozart born, 1756.
MONDAY, 28.—Admiral Byng shot, 1757.
TUESDAY, 29.—Swedenborg born, 1689. George III. died, 1820.
WEDNESDAY, 30.—Charles I. beheaded at Whitehall, 1649.
THURSDAY, 31.—Hilary Term ends. Guido Fawkes executed, 1606.
FRIDAY, Feb. 1.—Pheasant and Partridge shooting ends.
SATURDAY, 2.—Purification. Candlemas Day.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 2, 1856.

| Sunday. | Monday. | Tuesday. | Wednesday. | Thursday. | Friday. | Saturday. |
|---------|---------|----------|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m |
| 5 15 | 5 30 | 5 45 | 6 5 | 6 20 | 5 35 | 6 55 |

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1856.

THE Austrian propositions for peace, which, when first promulgated, made the stockjobbers of Vienna, Paris, and London frantic with joy, and well-nigh turned the heads of many honest people, do not improve upon acquaintance. The more they are studied, the less precise and satisfactory do they appear. There is already a strong revulsion in the popular feeling with respect to them. An impression prevails, and grows, that the Allies (to use a vulgar but expressive phrase) are about to be "sold;" and that, if an armistice be agreed upon while such vague propositions are to be discussed, Russia alone will gain the advantage. If the war continue, there is no reasonable ground for doubting that England and France will be able before next winter to dictate much more satisfactory terms, and to lay down the basis of a pacification broad enough and strong enough to last for a quarter, if not for half, a century; but if an armistice be concluded—if the season of activity in the Baltic be allowed to slip away in palaver—if the whole conduct of the world's business be left to diplomatists at Vienna, Berlin, Frankfurt, Aix-la-Chapelle, or any other place that has been named or suggested—the result, we believe, will be anything but satisfactory to the true friends of the peace and independence

of Europe. Three out of the five points of the Austrian scheme—to which Russia is said to have given her "pure and simple" adhesion—are of such a nature that a "pure and simple" adhesion to them may mean nothing. If we take, for instance, the proposed cession of a slice of Bessarabia, so as to leave the mouths of the Danube within the line of the Turkish territory, we find that the fortress of Chotym may or may not be included in the arrangement. If not included, Moldavia and Wallachia may be as easily overrun by a Russian force as at the present time, when the Pruth is the line of boundary. Again, if we examine the proposal for the "neutralisation" of the Black Sea, we shall find a great, if not insurmountable, difficulty in defining what is meant by neutralisation, and what peculiar sense Russia attributes to the word. The Black Sea was neutral before the declaration of war, so that to redeclare it to be neutral means little or nothing. The Austrian proposition would go to prohibit Russia from constructing "arsenals" on the coasts of the Euxine; but again we are met by a difficulty. Are arsenals and fortresses identical? and, if not, what is the difference between the two words—or, rather, the two things? And Sebastopol—of which there is an ugly rumour afloat that its docks are not to be blown up;—may that be rebuilt as a fortress, if Russia undertake not to make it an arsenal? And Anapa? Was that a fortress or an arsenal? Russia, it appears, is to be allowed to have establishments for the defence of her possessions in the Euxine; but what treaty or protocol can define what is necessary for pure defence without being available for aggression? Any fortress strong enough to resist Turkey would, in Russian hands, be not only strong enough, but ready enough, to harbour the means of offensive warfare against that Power whenever the moment seemed favourable for the renewal of those projects which Russia may postpone, but will never abandon—except upon compulsion. The Fifth Point is even more vague. It is supposed to refer to Bomarsund, and may or may not include a stipulation against its re-edification either as fortress or arsenal. At present the world is in the dark on the subject; though we may be sure that Russia will not yield a point so humiliating as that would be, unless a strong pressure be put upon her both by Austria and by Prussia. The question does not interest Austria; and, if it interest Prussia at all, it is in a way adverse from the interests of Great Britain and France, and their new ally, Sweden. The *Journal de St. Petersburg* has already put forth an official, or semi-official, announcement, of which the object seems to be to prepare the way for a denial of any right on the part of the Allies to moot this question. "Out of consideration for the general wish of Europe," says the Russian organ, "the Russian Government has not sought to impede the work of reconciliation by accessory negotiations, in the hope that due account will be taken of its moderation." What is meant by accessory negotiations, if they be not those included under the fifth and supernumerary clause of the Austrian propositions? Russia will keep this point in the background, and allow the discussions on the rest to proceed, trusting, as usual, to the chapter of accidents, and to the hope that the Powers which would not draw the sword, to fight either for her or against her, will fight for her with the tongue. It is bad enough to darken counsel, but the darkening of counsel could be endured if the paralysation of the right arm of Victory were not involved in the obfuscation. Count Nesselrode denies, with true Russian bravado, that "the interests of Russia call for the conclusion of peace," and asserts that Russia merely shows her present willingness to listen to terms "out of deference to the representations of friendly Powers." France and England can judge by this of the temper of the enemy they have to deal with. The great, the invincible, the magnanimous Russia does not ask for peace—not she! Peace is begged of her by her good friends, and she will not be so unmerciful as to decline to listen to their overtures. But, if Russia have good friends, so have Great Britain and France. Their friends are the justice and the purity of their cause, the openly-avowed or secret sympathy of all the nations of Europe, the indomitable energy, the wealth, and the resources of their people; and last, not least, fleets and armies for the Euxine, and gun-boats for the Baltic, numerous enough to make St. Petersburg tremble. Peace may result from the negotiations; but, if it do, it must be because the Allies mistrust Russia and her friends, not because they confide in them. We have not yet heard what English statesman has been selected to watch over the interests of Great Britain at the approaching Conference; but, of all the persons suggested, Lord Clarendon seems to us to be by far the most eligible. He is a practised diplomatist, and, what is of as great if not of more importance, he is a clear-headed and honest statesman. In his hands the interests of England would be safe; and, while his own countrymen would implicitly confide in his honour and ability, his name would excite no jealousy or mistrust in any quarter.

THE instructive documents periodically published by the Board of Trade are of incalculable service to all engaged in commerce; and, coupled with the Trade Circulars published by eminent mercantile firms, enable the public to compare, from year to year, the increase or decrease of business in the varied departments of industry. It has long been regretted that similar facilities for obtaining accurate information in rural economy have not been furnished on the responsibility of Government, for a Board of Agriculture is only inferior to a Board of Trade. Attempts have, however, been recently made to supply the defect. The Irish returns conducted by the Constabulary are very valuable; those entrusted to the Poor Law Commissioners in England have hitherto failed. The second Report on Scotland is now before us, and is of a most gratifying character, diligently and gratuitously prepared by the district enumerators. "These gentlemen," to quote the language of the official document, "constitute a selected body of above one thousand of the tenant-farmers of Scotland, and their assistance is not only of the greatest value in obtaining correct estimates of produce, but their co-operation stamps the statistical inquiry with an amount of agricultural approbation, and lends to it a weight of agricultural influence, which has materially conducted to its success."

A periodical census shows us the amount of population with almost unerring accuracy, and with equal exactness we ought to know how much food our native resources can supply from year to

year for their sustenance. This knowledge would enable us to calculate on the extent of cereals we should require from foreign countries, depriving the corn trade of a speculative character, and averting those panics, founded on vague rumours, which frequently give rise to civic tumult. An eminent political economist, who is looked up to as an authority, estimated the average produce of wheat in Scotland at 1,137,500 quarters, and of barley at 1,800,000 quarters, and he was believed on the reputation of his name; but it appears from the ascertained and enumerated return in 1855 that the yield of wheat was only 632,814 quarters, and of barley 762,362 quarters. Errors of this magnitude reduce statistics to a mere guess, and render them worse than valueless. The following is the estimate of the gross produce of the subjoined articles in 1855 and 1854:—

| | 1855. | 1854. |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Wheat, in bushels | 5,062,540 | 4,848,679 |
| Barley, " | 6,098,904 | 7,645,328 |
| Oats, " | 30,079,714 | 34,093,047 |
| Bere, " | 556,876 | 645,418 |
| Beans and Peas, " | 1,183,647 | 1,081,263 |
| Turnips, tons | 6,461,476 | 6,411,419 |
| Potatoes, " | 732,141 | 520,915 |

It may be well to observe that the return for 1854 included beans only; that for 1855 embraced both beans and peas.

In 1855 there were 43,462 occupants, and the total acreage under tillage was 3,529,902½ acres. In comparing the two years, wheat culture increased by 23,067½ acres, while that of barley decreased by 21,426½ acres. Taking the gross returns for the two years, as regards the area under wheat, barley, oats, rye, bere, beans, and peas, they only vary from each other by 176 acres. In 1854 there were 1,374,515½; and in 1855, 1,374,691½ acres. The increase on the total stock of 1855, as compared with 1854, is, 937,630, while that on horses and sheep alone is 628,107. The total stock for 1855, including horses, milch cows, other cattle, calves, sheep, lambs, and swine, was, in 1855, 6,981,014 head; and in 1854, 6,043,384.

The list of occupants (43,462) is confined to those who have a purely agricultural status—the names of householders, feuars, owners of villas, &c., being struck out. Where the same individual leases more farms than one in a parish, those farms have been scheduled together, so that the roll is made up of occupants, not of tenements. A distinction is made between tenants renting at and above £20, and those renting at and above £10. The former class contains 4339 occupants in the counties of Argyre, Caithness, Inverness, Orkney and Zetland, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland, and in the Isle of Arran; the second, 31,123, renting at £10 and upwards, in the remaining counties. The remainder are below these rates of rental; and the report observes—"Though the number of such occupants is great, the statistics of their holdings is unimportant; and, not being subject to sudden fluctuations, it was conceived that the results obtained last year may with safety be readopted."

THE COURT.

The hospitalities of the Court continue to prevail at Windsor Castle, a succession of distinguished visitors receiving the Queen's commands as other guests take their departure. Among those who have been honoured with invitations during the past few days may be mentioned the Premier, who arrived on Saturday last, and remained at the Castle until Monday; the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere and Lady Blanche Egerton, the Earl and Countess of Durham, Sir George and Lady Grey, the Earl and Countess of Shelburne, Lord and Lady Colville, Lord Ashburton, and the Rev. Dr. Philpott, of Catherine Hall. The Duke and Duchess d'Aumale paid a visit to her Majesty on Saturday.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor read the prayers, and the Rev. Dr. Philpott preached the sermon. The Duchess of Kent and Viscount Palmerston were also at the service.

On Monday the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Count of Flanders, went out shooting. In the afternoon the Count took leave of her Majesty, and, travelling to Dover, embarked the same evening for Ostend, on his return to Brussels.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Prince walked in the Home Park. The Earl of Clarendon had an audience of her Majesty during the morning. In the evening the Royal dinner party included the Duchess of Kent, her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere and Lady Blanche Egerton, and Sir George and Lady Grey.

On Wednesday the Queen drove out in an open carriage, accompanied by the Princesses Helena and Louisa. His Royal Highness Prince Albert went out shooting. Lieut.-Colonel Challoner had the honour of accompanying the Prince.

On Thursday a dramatic performance took place at the Castle. Shakspeare's "Merchant of Venice" was the play selected for representation. At eight o'clock the Queen and the Prince, accompanied by the Princes and Princesses of the Royal family, and a numerous circle of distinguished guests, entered St. George's Hall, when the performance immediately commenced.

The Court will arrive in town on Wednesday next, for the opening of Parliament.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary have arrived at their residence at St. James's Palace, for the season, from Cambridge Cottage, Kew. The Duke of Cambridge visited the Duchess and Princess shortly after his return from Paris, on Tuesday.

The Earl of Cottenham met with a severe accident a few days since, whilst skating with a Christmas party assembled at the seat of Mr. Herbert, of Llanarth. His Lordship is recovering.

MARRIAGE IN HIGH LIFE.—The marriage of Sir Henry Meux, Bart., of Theobald's Park, Hertfordshire, M.P. for that county, with Miss Louisa Caroline Brudenell Bruce, eldest daughter of Lord Ernest Bruce, M.P., Vice-Chamberlain of her Majesty's Household, and Lady Ernest Bruce, took place at the British Embassy, at Paris, on Saturday last. The marriage service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Hale, chaplain to the Embassy.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. J. C. T. Pattenson to St. Anne, Donnington, with the Incumbency of Kingston-upon-Soar, Nottinghamshire; the Rev. C. Baring to Limsfield, Surrey; the Rev. H. C. Glanville to Shevlocke, near Devonport; the Rev. J. Griffith to Neath, with Llantwr, Glamorganshire; the Rev. R. Farquharson to Long Langton, near Blandford, Dorset. *Vicarages*: The Rev. A. Gilbert, to Benham, near Holt, Norfolk; the Rev. W. F. Bickmore to Kenilworth; the Rev. W. G. Holmes to Little Hampton, Sussex. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. R. P. Cornish to Ivybridge, Devonshire; the Rev. W. E. Evans to Skelbrooke, near Pontefract; the Rev. R. Wood to Christchurch, Paddington; the Rev. J. P. Waldo to Woburn Episcopal Chapel, Tavistock-square, London; the Rev. H. W. Brooks, to St. Stephen's Church, Westbourne Park, Paddington. *Curacy*: The Rev. H. F. Gray to Borley, Essex (and not to the Incumbency, as stated in our Journal of Dec. 1). The Queen has been pleased to constitute the colony of Western Australia to be a Bishop's See and Diocese, to be called the Bishopric of Perth; and to appoint the Venerable Matthew B. Hale, Archdeacon of Adelaide, to be ordained and consecrated Bishop of the said See.

THE Great Western Royal Hotel is full of company. Jenny Lind (M^{rs}. Goldschmidt) has a suite of apartments in the house.

THE RUGELEY TRAGEDIES.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

"BUT," said Mr. Serjeant Wilkins, in the Bail Court, during the Palmer forgery case, on Monday, "for the wicked, unconstitutional, and cruel attempts which have been made for weeks past by those who ought to be the protectors and guardians of our liberties and rights—but for the infamous calumnies heaped upon the head of a man whose name appeared in this transaction—this case would not have occupied more than ten minutes." Mr. Serjeant Wilkins generally makes himself understood; and, in this instance, speaking as counsel for the Palmer family, he desires to convey censure upon the press for the fulness and completeness with which, beyond and above the usual reports of the formal legal proceedings, they have conveyed what may be emphatically called the news—the edited talk of the neighbourhood and of society in general—respecting that extraordinary series of transactions which are freely termed the Rugeley Tragedies. Now, if the reader will look to the conclusion of that episode in the epic story—the trial on Monday of the action for forgery—he will perceive that the Counsel on both sides, and the Court, after a discussion and evidence enduring much beyond the ten minutes, declared that the investigation that day had been of a most proper character, and, technically, was of a most satisfactory description. This proper investigation might never have taken place but for informal and "premature" newspaper accounts. The satisfactory result is attributable to the circumstance that the press has aided the law in flooding the case with light. So far Mr. Serjeant Wilkins has no right to complain.

On general grounds it may be argued that this Bar talk against the press is mere cant, like other Bar chants—such as that a barrister is bound to use all means to gain the cause for his client—a position which it is well known Mr. Serjeant Wilkins does not flinch from. That a jury should come to a trial with unbiassed minds is very desirable; and that every man should be held to be innocent until he is proved to be guilty is an unimpeachable axiom. But in these days of newspapers no great case is ever opened with a jury completely without opinions thereon, and, obviously, in a case of this character, the more discussion the better; for the rumour of one day is tested the next, a blunder is rectified, a mistake contradicted, the press having no interest but in accuracy; and, at any rate, what is commonly talked, despite all forensic conveniences, may be better submitted for comment and criticism by being printed, the actual trial bringing everything to the test; and every jury in a mere criminal case coming to their final conclusions on the case as it is presented to them at the last moment by the scrupulous Judge. With regard to the rule that no man should be considered guilty until proved to be guilty, it is not violated on this occasion. A coroner's inquest is as constitutional an investigation as any in which Mr. Serjeant Wilkins takes part; and a jury of twenty-three persons, friends and townsmen of the accused, have thrice, in three different cases, found William Palmer guilty of "Wilful Murder." It is not often that the finding of a coroner's jury is set aside by an assize panel; none in a case like this, in which the moral convictions of mankind will insist on setting aside all the trivialities of that technicality to which the evidence—certainly only circumstantial—is exposed; and it is, therefore, without any consciousness of violating law, justice, or propriety, that we continue collecting all the presented points of the case as they have arisen, to furnish the public and the possible jurymen with the facts of the most dreadful case that has occurred in the annals of crime since the horrible exploits of that German nurse (immortalised in the volume published in 1846 of Judge Feuerbach) who poisoned in every family into whose service she entered.

The circumstances of the trial at Westminster on Monday have, in one sense, not been "satisfactory" to the counsel for Palmer; for, though actions on forged bills appear to be stopped (not, we suspect, without some collusion "wicked and unconstitutional," if not "cruel"), yet Palmer's statement, in evidence, that it was his wife who forged his mother's name, has served, apart from belief or disbelief in the statement, to increase the public feeling against the criminal. The "sensational" in court when he, with masterly coolness, made this astounding declaration represented the thrill of surprise with which the charge has been received by the world outside. The reader will recollect the character given of Mrs. William Palmer by all her neighbours: her meekness and gentleness; her solitary life; her patience under neglect; and her inexpensive habits. They will also recollect that she was independent in means of her husband and of her mother-in-law. The forged bill was taken by Wm. Palmer to the Mr. Padwick who discounted it. One of two things is certain—either she never did write her mother-in-law's name on the bill drawn by her husband; or, if she did, it was under compulsion from her husband. In any case this husband's accusation against his dead—and, according to a jury, poisoned—wife is infamous. The terms on which he stood with his mother—confidential, both in a family and in a financial sense—forbid the idea, even if there was any assumption of any kind to support it, that he was deceived by his wife. The bill was drawn July, 1854, at three months' date. When it fell due Palmer paid £1000 on it, and gave subsequently two cheques (both dishonoured) for the residue; and execution by arrest was due on it in December, 1855. The transaction then lasted eighteen months. The mother must have heard of it, therefore; and must have known that it was a forgery. The son knew who forged it. But not until Monday is the dead woman arraigned as a forger.

The revelation was made dramatically. Virtuous grief and conscientious pain were the expression of the scene. The counsel who had to defend the mother, and to show that the bill was not signed by her, declined to call as a witness, in her defence, the son who was prepared to exonerate the mother by an accusation against the wife. When the exigencies of the case demanded that all delicacy should be discarded, the son made his statement with reluctant precision—as a victim to love of truth. He was not brought into the witness-box until the last moment, to create a climax. And as the nature of his assertion is in consonance with the reckless hardness of his whole career, so was his manner in keeping. It was in a smooth, easy, pleasant way that, as he is charged, he killed his wife; and it is still in a smooth, easy, pleasant style that he attacked her fame. The spectators could not withhold their admiration at the calm of his deportment while under the eyes of the court, and while contributing the stab to the spouse whom he was already supposed to have poisoned. We hear that this complacent ease of manner, which he sustained amid all the torture of his monetary embarrassments and all the agonies of his conspiracies, does not desert him in the least during his imprisonment. The kindly nod and affable smile which procured him his influence among the vulgar of the turf are still at the disposal of all persons approaching him. His first notions, on being taken to gaol, of bawling a vindictive country by resorting to suicide—a resolution by no means reconcilable with a consciousness of innocence—seems to have given way to the encouragement suggested by the views taken by his friends of the resources of the law. His mother, who is rich, is, it is stated, determined that he shall have all the advantages of the best counsel; and his friends—and the names of well-known sporting personages are mentioned as those of his friends—ply him with the assurance that the evidence is utterly insufficient for his conviction. Hence, perhaps, his firmness. Those who saw him between his gaols, on Sunday and Monday, and in the cab going to and from Westminster, state that he did not appear in the least appalled by the furious curiosity of the crowds. In court he is described as "quiet and gentlemanly."

Lawyers are confident that he must be acquitted. Lawyers are always abusing juries, and yet they now pay a prospective jury the compliment of thinking that it will decide in strict and refined conformity with the most delicate laws of evidence. But they stipulate that he must be tried in London, or, at any rate, not at Stafford, among the community whose instincts have already unreservedly condemned him. Whether this favour will be conceded to him remains to be seen; if it be, the argument would amount to this—that no offence should be tried near the place where it is committed, which would, of course, be quite consistent with the ordinary circuit arrangements of the English assize! The general case against Palmer is conceded. He was not in practice, and yet was perpetually purchasing poisons of all sorts. Wife, brother, children, mother-in-law, a couple of intimate friends, die suddenly, all but unaccountably, as regards natural causes, under his treatment—all but two of the dismal catalogue actually under his roof. He gains, through an insurance, by the wife's death. He attempts, by the same plan, to gain by the brother's death. To pay the premiums on the policies he borrows money at the rate of 60 per cent. The friends who die suddenly under his treatment—one of them under his roof—are his creditors. The betting-book of one friend is missed after death. The wife of the other friend protests against the statement of accounts between them made by Palmer. The wife of the brother indignantly denies a similar statement of accounts, and to this wife an untrue statement is made by William Palmer respecting the circumstances of her husband's

(Walter Palmer) death. People who drink with him are taken sick after the hilarity. The insurance-offices refuse transactions with him because of the suspicious nature of his proceedings. Of the bottles he keeps in his surgery few are at all full, and of those kept replenished they are bottles marked "poison." He seduces his maid servant. He asks a postmaster to open letters. He asks the Coroner to direct a favourable verdict. He induces a stable-help to attempt a fraud on an insurance-office. Lastly, he either induces his wife to commit a forgery, or he benefits, silently, by a forgery committed by her. Out of such admitted facts we are not forbidden to construct a hideous character. But still, the lawyers ask confidently, where is the evidence than can pass muster? And, therefore, William Palmer awaits with confidence the day of his trial.

It should be understood that the insurance-offices, who have a great deal to do, if not with the conduct, at least with the animus, of the prosecution, believe that William Palmer was only one of a set of men who may be indicted for conspiracy. The Bates case was certainly a conspiracy; was detected as such; and the attempt to insure the life of that person was, therefore, dropped. But William Palmer and Bates were only two of a set of conspirators. The medical referees, the friendly referees, and the "parties" acting as William Palmer's agents in London, are all involved. Hence the intended examination arranged for last Wednesday of Mr. Pratt, solicitor, of London, who has been continuously engaged in these insurance matters for William Palmer. In respect to Walter Palmer's insurance some remarkable statements have been made in advance. The wife appeared to know nothing of it. Her evidence is otherwise singular. Her husband visited her at Liverpool, twelve days before he died. He then appeared to be in good health, and to have abandoned his drinking habits. He was offered wine at dinner, but would only drink ale, and that sparingly, and drank no spirits. Now, the evidence of his servant, or keeper—the man paid by William Palmer to take care of Walter—given at the inquest on Monday week, led to an idea that Walter had been drinking to excess uninterruptedly for months. The evidence of this fellow—Walkenden—is further contradicted in another particular. He stated deliberately that William Palmer had not visited Walter Palmer from the Saturday before his (Walter's) death until the morning of the day on which he died. The diary of William Palmer himself gives the lie to this assertion—he was with his brother constantly during the week previous to the decease. On this point the Boots of an inn at Stafford, near the house in which Walter Palmer convulsively gave up the ghost, is of significance, taken in conjunction with facts and inferences. The day Walter died, William left some "medicine" in Boots' care, and a few hours after the death he took this medicine away with him. Was the medicine one of the poison-bottles from the tragic surgery at Rugeley?

In reference to this case, the statement of Mr. Farren, actuary and secretary at the Gresham Life Insurance Office, is of great value and weight. Mr. Farren received a proposal to insure the life of Walter Palmer for £15,000. This proposal was left at the office by a "person unknown." It was ascertained that Walter Palmer had been a drunkard, and had had *delirium tremens*. But it was also ascertained, on examination, that he was not organically diseased in any part; and that, supposing him to live for the future temperately, his was not a life which ought on the whole to be rejected. A course, probably customary in doubtful cases, was suggested. We will insure him, said the Gresham Office, provided that if he die within five years we be not called upon to pay. "The office made this condition, feeling assured from the medical examination made by Mr. Smeeth that, if Walter Palmer resisted the temptation of drink for five years, his natural constitution was so sound and good that his life might be then fairly insurable." Wm. Palmer demurred to these terms, and asked whether the life would not be accepted upon some more favourable conditions, urging that his brother's life, now that he had reformed, was as good a life as could be found. Mr. Farren said that if that were so, and that Mr. William Palmer were really going to take care of his brother, and had such an excellent opinion of his life, he could not reasonably refuse to be the insurer himself for five years. William Palmer's reply was, "That would not suit my book at all." This is the report of an interview which the two brothers had with the officers of the Gresham in London. During this visit Walter Palmer seems to have been spoken to in an inner room, in the absence of his brother William. Mr. Farren put it to him—had he really any honest intention to reform his life? He was in very low spirits; had apparently lost all self-respect; and answered that he always wished to reform; but that, somehow, "drink was always ready for him," and he could not resist the temptation.

The recklessness of the insurance-offices, as disclosed incidentally in this evidence, appears to have been marvellous. This bad life was at last insured in the Prince of Wales Office for £13,000, half-a-dozen other offices sharing the risk, according to the usual system. This was a great stroke of business. But Palmer was not content. He wrote up to Mr. Pratt to raise the amount to £25,000. Mr. Pratt says that he was assured by William Palmer that advances to this amount had been made by William to Walter, and that the enormous policy was needed to cover these advances. Mr. Pratt is, clearly, a credulous man; for he asks the Prince of Wales Office, in the first instance, to increase the risk. The Prince of Wales Office declines; and—not astonished apparently, and certainly not baffled—Mr. Pratt trots about to other offices with William Palmer's proposals on the life of Walter Palmer. It is to be hoped that other bill-discounting solicitors are less trustful. Mr. Pratt lent William Palmer, from first to last, £11,200, £8000 actually in cash, on bills, generally accepted, or purporting to be accepted, by Sarah Palmer, the wealthy widow of Rugeley. Sometimes, as he knew, William Palmer was raising money at sixty per cent, and yet Mr. Pratt was slow to suspect anything wrong or risky with his client. He insured Walter Palmer for him, and he tried to insure Bates for him, until it was made quite clear to the offices who Bates was. He excuses himself by a reference to a quality scarce in solicitors who "do" bills—his simplicity and credulity. Yet, strangely, Mr. Pratt had sometimes, on these bill transactions, to threaten Mrs. Palmer (the mother) with law, to sue her, and to send writs down to her. However, Mr. Cheshire was postmaster, and stopped the writs; and no answer was ever received from Mrs. Palmer, except through William Palmer. One day Mr. Pratt became enraged, and went down to Rugeley to see this obdurate old lady. She was sick, and would not see him; and he returned to town without seeing her, and still, it would appear, acted as William Palmer's agent and solicitor in London.

All the revelations regarding William Palmer's monetary arrangements indicate a financier of at least enterprise. When his father died he got very little ready money, the great mass of the fortune rapidly and suspiciously acquired by the old sawyer being left to the widow. His mother stated on Monday that the gross sum she had advanced to her son William did not exceed £6000. He received no ready money on his marriage, and only £15,000 on his wife's death. He had no practice as a surgeon. Yet he kept seventeen race-horses. He betted constantly, assiduously, and largely. He was always on the move, from course to course, from town to town, hotel to hotel. He kept carriages, which were always at the service, on the Sabbath, of Mrs. Cheshire, wife of the manageable postmaster of Rugeley. He never got into debt at Rugeley or Stafford, which kept off suspicion of motive for years, during a series of catastrophes in his solemn-looking house. And he was not a defaulter on the turf; on the contrary, keeping up well with his bets, and getting the reputation of making a safe book. The incidental expenses he was at seem very great. He was free of his money with ostlers, grooms, messengers, and all that class whose good opinions are bought by petty *pour-boire* bribes. He was profuse in his presents of game to the class next in degree, and who could not receive the casual half-crown—to coroners and postmasters. He was generally generous to women. Walkenden, his brother's keeper, lived on William—and Walkenden must have been well paid. The sums needed to pay the premiums on policies of £15,000 were not trifling. How did he manage all this? Men of fortune find it a difficulty, unless very successful, to keep up seventeen race-horses, with their establishments, grooms, and jockeys, and, at the same time, to bet to the extent practised by William Palmer. This Rugeley surgeon, however, without practice, with a wife commanding only a few hundreds per annum, and with nothing more to base his speculations on than some problematical expectations from a healthy and strong-minded mother, faced the world with a pleasant smile, and "kept things going" with a persistency scarce even in fast life. But there was, after all, about his finance as little art as about his poisoning. People with such expectations as can satisfy bill-discounting solicitors, who chose to use their relatives' names without the relatives' knowledge, who give sixty per cent for money, and who insure bad lives with aforethought, can manage to carry on as long as William Palmer did—which was a very little time. He is only about thirty-four, and yet was desperately placed when he "attended" Cooke in December last. Then everything was found so rotten that, had Cooke lived and no suspicion been aroused, he could not have gone on another month. Horses, furniture, everything was mortgaged; and bills were out to an amount beyond his finances. He was a clumsy poisoner, and was as clumsy a financier.

The chief constable of Staffordshire, Mr. Hatton, has, it is reported, gone deeply into the connection between Cooke and Palmer, and there is some probability that the motive in that dark mystery, which, as it stood, suggested that Palmer was a blundering maniac, may be developed. Why were the betting-book and other papers of Cooke concealed

or destroyed? "It was no good to anybody," said Palmer, referring to the missing book. For the few hundreds he is reported to have owed Cooke on bets made during the Shrewsbury races, at which they were present in company, Palmer, unless a mere bungling madman, would not have risked the suspicion aroused by the absence of the book and papers which, as the chambermaid at the hotel told everybody, she had seen lying in front of the looking-glass. But for that missing book the charge of murder might never have been made. The story is thus told:—The death of Cooke was communicated to his friends in London. A Mr. Stephens, Cooke's stepfather, immediately set off from town to Rugeley. At one of the stations (it is not exactly known which), on the way down, he met Wm. Palmer. This was not by appointment, for Palmer was on his way up to London. Palmer immediately took a ticket back to Rugeley, and kept in Mr. Stephens's company. Mr. Stephens took up his quarters in Rugeley at the Talbot Arms, in which Cooke had died, or been killed. He invited William Palmer (who lived opposite) to step over, and drink a glass of wine. William Palmer told Mr. Stephens all about the death. Mr. Stephens was very friendly with him; but the conversation was turned on the missing betting-book; and then Mr. Stephens began to suspect—for who could have had an interest in taking it but William Palmer? Then a solicitor was consulted, the first charge was made, and down came the whole system of chicanery, fraud, and, according to a jury, wilful murder.

An error crept into the account last week of the antecedents of Palmer. Colonel Brooks (a retired East India officer), the father of Mrs. William Palmer, did not commit suicide after the marriage of his daughter; he died before it, but it was a question at the time if he had committed suicide. The mother of Mrs. William Palmer did not call herself Mrs. Brooks, but Mrs. Thornton. She was a very violent woman. She detested her daughter's husband. For many years she refused to go over to Rugeley from Stafford, where she resided, to see her daughter. She only went when informed that Mrs. William Palmer was "dangerously" ill, which was during one of her early confinements. She is reported to have said, on leaving Stafford, that she knew she should never be allowed to return. She never did return. She died in her son-in-law's gloomy house in Rugeley.

There was also an error in stating that Mrs. William Palmer bore six children, and that only one lived. The number was five, four of whom died soon after birth. In some instances the consternation excited by the case seems to have bewildered otherwise reliable people. The nurse who attended Mrs. William Palmer in her fatal illness deposed that the unfortunate lady received the last consolations of religion from a clergyman—the Vicar of Rugeley, Mr. Atkinson—who, she further represented, offered up a prayer, the words of which she gave. Now, the nurse is a little deaf, and it was considered strange that she should have heard the prayer with such distinctness as to remember it with such accuracy; but she bears an honest character—had no possible motive for an untrue statement—and she was credited, as a matter of course. Among those who heard her give this evidence in the inquest-room was the Rev. Mr. Atkinson himself, and he listened to her without interrupting her. But when he got out, and into the open air, he spoke to his friends, and assured them that he had called at William Palmer's house at the time in question for the purpose of seeing Mrs. Palmer; but that, so far from seeing her, he had never entered the house on that occasion. Another of the women about William Palmer's house told her neighbours that Mrs. Palmer had exclaimed the day after her return from Liverpool, and when her husband arrived in Rugeley, "What! is that villain come home? he'll murder me!" Nothing of the sort occurred. Mr. Atkinson, however, is so struck with the nurse's statement in respect to himself that he now (we hear) distrusts his own memory. Such are some of the inevitable incidents of a complicated case, extending over months, and dependent on a mass of circumstantial evidence; but such are not the incidents upon which the press have dwelt.

The further evidence of Dr. Taylor, taken in the Walter Palmer case, at the resumed inquiry on Wednesday, is also likely to lead to controversy. Dr. Taylor offered no distinct opinion of his own, but so spoke on the general facts as rather to urge the jury, eager to push the case to the utmost against William Palmer, to find a verdict of "Wilful Murder." That, under the circumstances, and considering the foregoing cases, it is a very proper verdict, there can be little question; but Dr. Taylor will be told that, speaking as he does with such great authority, he should speak with more precision, or remain silent. His evidence, analysed and cross-examined by a counsel like Mr. Serjeant Wilkins, himself trained to medicine, and with no inconsiderable knowledge, is not, in this instance, likely to benefit his reputation.

It is said that Government has directed a special inquiry into the conduct of the Coroner, Mr. Ward; and that it is not unlikely that an investigation will take place into the circumstances attending the death of Bladen, the brewer's collector, who died—suddenly, of course—in William Palmer's house, about five years ago.

AUSTRALIAN MAILS, VIA SINGAPORE.—At Sydney, advertisements have been issued by the Government for tenders for the conveyance of the mails between Sydney and Singapore, via Torres Strait, and the contract is to be entered into from month to month. According to the evidence of Capt. Towns, the communication proposed could be accomplished at the expense of £30,000 per annum, without reckoning the postage. The vote of the Legislature is only £25,000; but we presume that if something in excess of that sum should be absolutely necessary, it will not be refused by the Government, or grudging by the future Legislature.—*Australian and New Zealand Gazette*.

A ZOUAVE TESTIMONIAL OF GRATITUDE.—The Cercle Graslin, at Nantes, last year opened a subscription to purchase tobacco for the soldiers in the Crimea. As a mark of gratitude for that act of kindness, it has just received a mortar for pounding coffee, invented by the Zouaves. The lower part is formed of a shell of a very large calibre, and the end of the pestle of a small ball. This souvenir of the Crimea occupies a prominent place in the salons of the Cercle.—*Galignani*.

VALUE OF SLAVE LIFE.—A few weeks ago two intoxicated Kentuckians found a negro asleep in a hotel at Cincinnati, and, for amusement, they took a camphine lamp, and, pouring the fluid over his whiskers, ignited it, and the poor fellow's head and neck became instantly wrapped in an intense blaze, which continued until the fluid was consumed. The sufferings of the victim were dreadful in the extreme. No refinement of torture could have produced more excruciating misery. But, strange to say, death did not release him from torment until after the lapse of two weeks. No legal investigation took place, and the young men arranged the matter by paying the landlord of the hotel 1200 dols. for the loss of his servant.—*American paper*.

REMAINS OF THE GARRISON OF KARS.—Stragglers are still coming in from Kars. I met some yesterday, toiling over the snow-clad plain that lies between this and the Euphrates. They showed weary and footsore, poor fellows, but had not the wild hungry look of those who had preceded them. They had probably been recruiting at the villages on the road. But report states that no less than 1500 out of the 6000 Redifs who were turned out of Kars have perished in the snows of the Siwanidagh.—*Letter from Erzeroum, Dec. 24*.

FINANCES OF VICTORIA.—The revenue returns of Victoria for the year ending September 30th, have been published. It appears that the total receipts from all sources were £3,384,907. Deducting from this one-half of the land fund of, say £470,000, there would remain £2,914,900 available for the ordinary expenditure of 1855. While for the year 1854 the amount was only £2,640,000. Therefore the legitimate funds in the hands of the Government are actually larger than the previous year. On the whole, therefore, the Government may be congratulated on the favourable condition and prospects of the public revenue; and we have not the slightest doubt that, with ordinary prudence, the Government can without difficulty carry out a system of finance which shall at once enable them to recompence the public works, and relieve them from every embarrassment.—*Australian and New Zealand Gazette*.

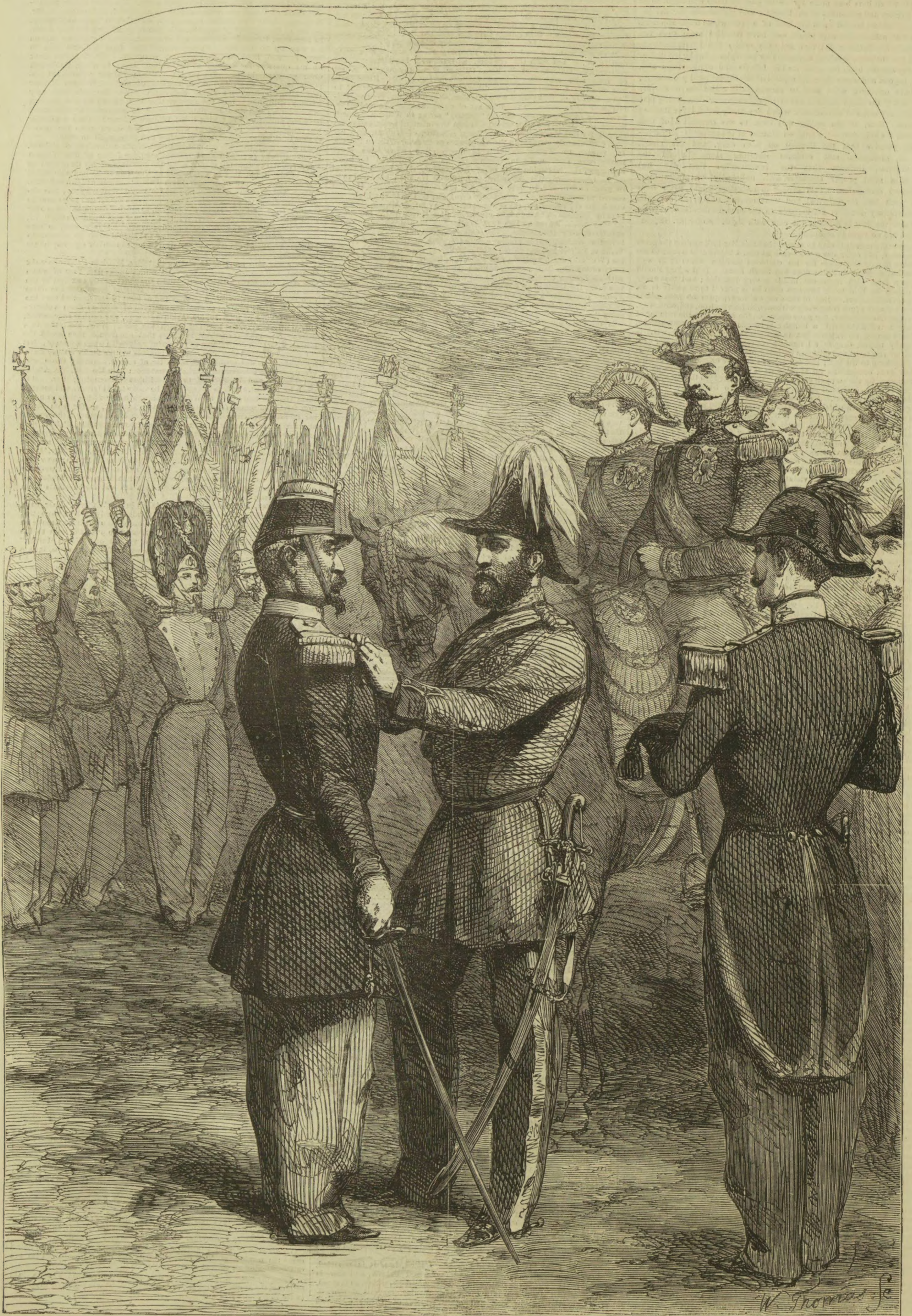
THE MALVERN LIGHT AND THE METEOR.—The Malvern light on the 10th instant was distinctly seen from the Beacon-hill, in the range of the Chilterns, at Chequers-court, near Aylesbury—being about seven hundred feet above the sea-level, and nearly seventy miles from Malvern. The fire had the appearance of a comet lying on the horizon, and having a tolerably bright centre surrounded by a nebulous haze. At Chequers the sky was cloudless, the air dry and perfectly clear. The Meteor of the 7th inst. was seen from the Bucks County Lunatic Asylum, at Stone, near Aylesbury, by Mr. Millar, the resident superintendent. Its first appearance was at an altitude of 20 deg. above the horizon, and 13 deg. west of the meridian; and it burst at an altitude of 8 deg. 30 min. above the horizon, and 11 deg. west of due south. As other accounts lead to the supposition that it fell about 150 miles to the south of Stone, we may conclude that it first became visible at about fifty-four miles above the surface of the earth, and burst at about twenty-two miles above it. These particulars respecting the Malvern Fire and the Meteor were communicated to the British Meteorological Society, at its meeting on Tuesday last, by the Rev. J. B. Reade.

The Jesuits have purchased a pretty little castle and estate near Vienna, and are about to establish a seminary.

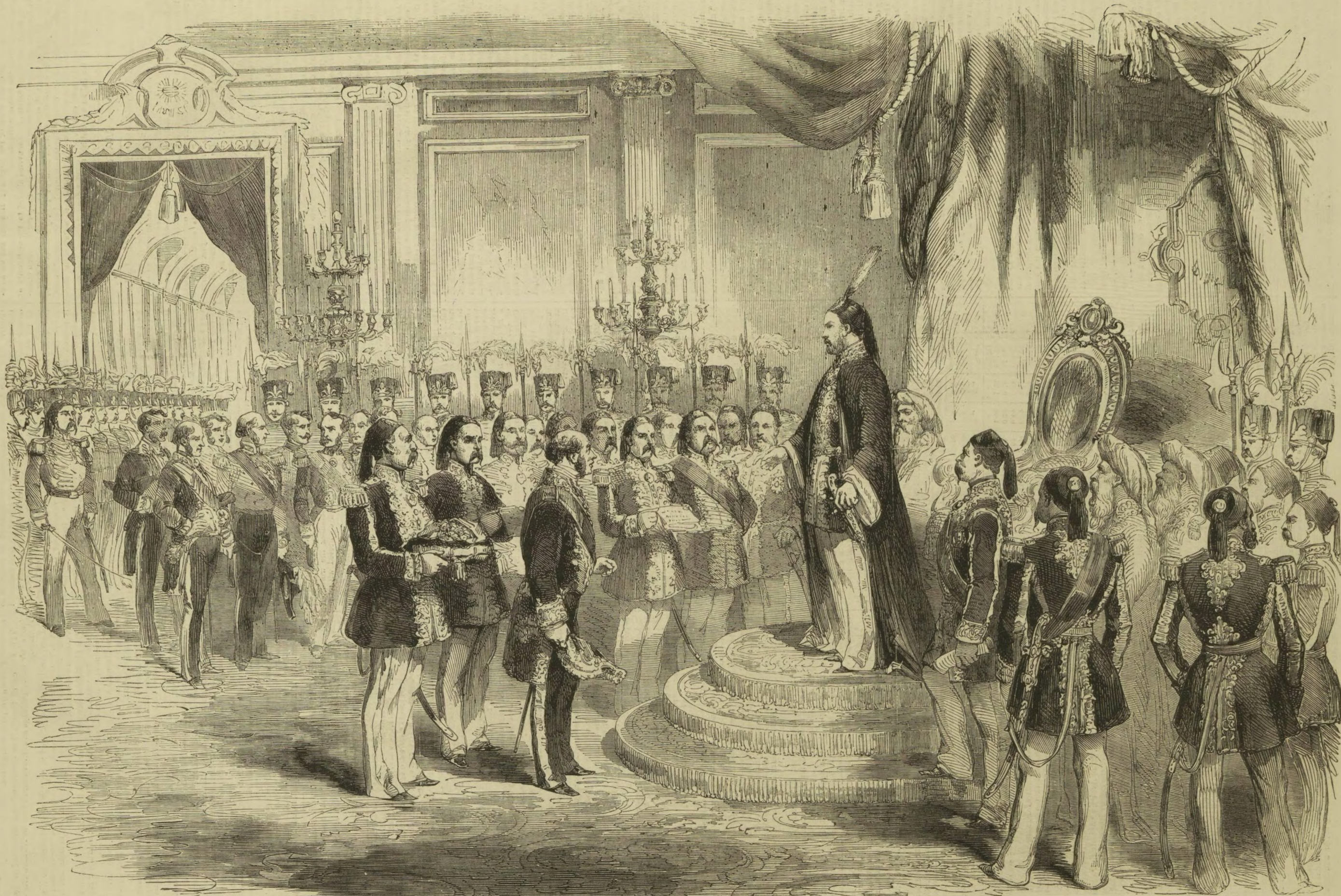
UPWARDS of 200 of the Lincolnshire Militia at Cork have volunteered during the last few days into the Coldstream Guards, the Lancers, and some infantry regiments.

In consequence of the large and increasing extent of undetected crime the magistrates of the county of Somerset have in contemplation the establishment of an efficient county police.

According to a telegraphic despatch received at Vienna last Saturday, the firman relative to the Kustendje Canal was signed by the Sultan on the 14th January.



DISTRIBUTION OF THE QUEEN'S MEDALS TO THE FRENCH CRIMEAN TROOPS, BY H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.—(SEE PAGE 82.)



PRESENTATION OF THE GRAND CORDON OF THE LEGION OF HONOUR TO THE SULTAN, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

PRESENTATION OF THE CROSS OF THE LEGION OF HONOUR TO THE SULTAN.

ON Saturday the 22nd ult. M. Thouvenel went in great state from the French Embassy to the Palace of Tcheragan, to present to his Majesty the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, and an autograph letter from the Emperor Napoleon.

In his speech to the Sultan, M. Thouvenel alluded to the sentiments of high esteem and sincere attachment which the Emperor Napoleon entertains for the Sultan; and concluded by saying that these insignia were a new pledge of the memorable alliance between Turkey and the Western Powers, for the purpose of repelling the unprovoked aggression of Russia, and taking such steps as may be deemed necessary to maintain the independence of the Ottoman empire.

The reply of the Sultan was not less complimentary.

MUSIC.

AT Madame Goldschmidt-Lind's Sacred Concert on Monday last "Elijah" was repeated. Notwithstanding the very inclement weather, Exeter-hall was as crowded, and the audience as enthusiastic, as ever. The fair singer was in the fullest possession of her powers; and her performance of the grand aria, "Hear ye Israel," was as remarkable for brilliancy of voice and execution as for the matchless sublimity of its expression. The character of the Prophet was on this occasion performed by Mr. Weiss, the only singer in England who is capable of sustaining it worthily. We have repeatedly paid a just tribute to this gentleman's talents. He has long held the undisputed rank of the first of English baritones; but he has also been constantly rising, and he is now undeniably equal to any singer of that class who has been heard in England in our day, whether with regard to the quality of his voice, his powers of execution, the extent of his attainments in his art, or his intelligence, energy, and feeling. His performance of *Elijah* on Monday evening was the greatest of his achievements. He was in no degree inferior to any of his three great foreign rivals who have sung this part in England—Staudigl, Fornes, and Belletti; while, as an Englishman, he had the advantage over them all in his pure and impressive utterance of the inspired language of the Holy Scriptures. In other respects the oratorio was performed as before; the other principal singers being Miss Dolby, Miss Messent, Mr. Locke, and Mr. Lawler.

The appearance of M. Otto Goldschmidt at Madame Goldschmidt's first miscellaneous concert was not, as was generally supposed, that gentleman's debut in England. In the summer of 1849 he played at one of the concerts of the Musical Union; and Mr. Ella, in his "Record" of that season, described his performance with warm and deserved eulogy.

THERE was a remarkable musical performance at the CRYSTAL PALACE on Saturday last, being one of a regular series which are now given weekly. It consisted not only of full orchestral pieces by the Company's excellent band, but of choral and concerted vocal music (an entirely new feature in the entertainments of the Crystal Palace) and instrumental pieces by eminent solo performers. The concert was held in the Music Room, in the north wing of the building, the musical capabilities of which have been satisfactorily tested. The selection was excellent. The programme included Cherubini's Overture to "Lodoiska," Mendelssohn's Overture "The Isles of Fingal," a number of German part-songs and English glees, sung by sixteen male voices belonging to the "Orpheus Glee and Choral Union," under the direction of Mr. Edwin Ball, of St. Paul's Cathedral; a grand polonaise played on the pianoforte by the young Arthur Napoleon; and a solo on the violoncello by Mr. Collins. The whole concert was most agreeable, and the introduction of vocal music was perfectly successful. The part-songs and glees (by the first German and English composers) were admirably sung, and their harmony was full and resonant. The concert of this day (26th) is to commemorate the centenary of the birthday of Mozart, and is consequently to consist entirely of pieces selected from his works; including the overture to "Idomeneo," several songs from his operas sung by Miss Grace Alleyne and Miss Palmer, and a movement from his last symphony. These elegant entertainments will greatly increase the attractions of the Crystal Palace.

MISS P. HORTON'S ENTERTAINMENT.—This lady is again announced to appear before the public in her musical entertainment, originally called "Illustrative Gatherings," in which some few months since her very clever impersonations won such marked approbation at St. Martin's Hall. The management of the undertaking has been confided to those whose experience in business arrangements renders them better qualified for the task than the lady herself; and she is coming forward at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street, where she will be the first person who has essayed an entertainment which does not consist exclusively of dioramic representations. Messrs. Grieve and Telbin are engaged in preparing the scenery, with a view to sustain the reputation which this establishment has always borne for pictorial effects.

THE Edinburgh people are carrying on their musical entertainments with much spirit, and no small eclat. The third season of their opera commenced on Monday last, when the Theatre Royal was crowded by a most fashionable audience. Verdi's "Trovatore" was, on the whole, well represented, and the Edinburgh papers are loud in their praise of the principal performers. The prima donna, Madame Fodor, is especially lauded, both for her vocal powers and her talents as an actress; and the tenor, Signor Beraldi, appears to have created a *furor*. The seconda donna, M^{lle}. Widmann, and the baritone, Signor Monari, are described as good performers; and the orchestra, under the able direction of Signor Orsini, is said to be the most complete and the best that has ever been heard in Edinburgh. The Scotch have more nationality of spirit than we have. While we affect to despise our own beautiful music, and neglect it so shamefully that it requires the researches of a Chappell to show that, in variety and interest, it equals the music of any other nation in the world, the Scotch are proud of theirs, and cherish and cultivate it. In Edinburgh at this time there are regular concerts of Scottish music, which fill the magnificent Music-hall of that city with crowds of delighted auditors. In speaking of one of these concerts last week the *Edinburgh Advertiser* says:—"The entertainment was made up of Scottish music, in the shape of melodies adapted to various forms, introduced into the overture, suited to the quadrille, and arranged as an orchestral piece. These were recognised in their various guise, and welcomed by the audience. In the vocal form they were not so attractive; but that assuredly for lack of native talent rather than from want of inherent beauty. The dance-music was the great feature of the performance, and once more did the joyous measure warm the heart of many an aged admirer of our reels and strathspeys, who listened to them with the fond recollection of the days of yore. Taking the evening's entertainment from beginning to end, we are certainly not saying too much in affirming that a better-pleased and more highly-gratified audience never left the Music-hall."

RICHARD WAGNER'S celebrated opera, "Tannhauser," was produced at Berlin a few days ago with the utmost success. It was got up with great splendour under the direction of Dorn, the eminent Kapellmeister. The prima donna was the composer's niece, Johanna Wagner; and the part of *Tannhauser* was performed by Theodore Formès. This opera has been received with enthusiasm in all the great theatres of Germany; and a week never passes in which we do not observe a notice of its performance at some one or other of those theatres. Our knowledge of the work is limited to its perusal, as it has never been produced in England; but, with the above facts before us, we find it difficult to believe in the soundness of the opinions regarding it expressed by some critics.

AMATEUR CONCERT AT THE MUSIC-HALL, WORCESTER.—The city of Worcester, faithful to its ancient musical prestige, again assembled, on Tuesday evening last, the amateurs of the county and neighbourhood in its Music-hall. The room was tastefully decorated with wreaths of evergreens suspended between each bracket-light. From the centre of each wreath hung gaily-coloured baskets, filled with artificial flowers and creepers. The organ and orchestra were as much concealed from view as awnings of white and pink calico and trellis-work covered with shrubs would permit; a temporary platform for the performers being advanced into the body of the room, so as to place them more on a level with the audience. The *coup d'œil* was very striking, every effort having been made to give the scene the appearance of a private assembly. The programme of the entertainment was well selected, and surpassed those of previous occasions. Among the vocalists who deserve particular mention were Miss Lechmere, who sang "Robert toi que j'aime," and "O Luce di quest'anima," with much feeling and brilliancy of execution; and Mr. Drummond, whose performance of Beethoven's aria of "Adelaide" was honoured with an enthusiastic ovation. The band and chorus were perfectly drilled, and contributed not a little to the success of the entertainment.

The iron trade of Birmingham protest against the increase of freight for iron ore on the London and North-Western Railway.

The Cortes has approved finally of the project for establishing a new General Society of Credit and Spanish Capitalists' Bank by the moneyed classes of Madrid.

THE THEATRES, &c.

PRINCESS.—The comedy of "The Jealous Wife," having been performed before her Majesty on Thursday, was on Monday acted at this theatre. The piece has been considerably strengthened by reduction to three acts. It is needless to say that this play is one of the most successful on the boards; possession of which it has retained to the present hour. In all its leading characteristics the drama is very judiciously constructed. Taking his plot from Fielding's novel of "Tom Jones," the elder Colman aimed at the public of his day and hit the Drury Lane audience so effectually that the reception of this comedy is in theatrical annals recorded as "astonishing." But the author was careful to sustain the originality of his genius in the characters of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley, which are so distinctly marked that they are sure to tell. Wisely eschewing the passionate points of female jealousy, the author has drawn his heroine as a wife less fond of her husband than ambitious of dominion in the family circle; jealousy with her, accordingly, whatever she may think to the contrary, is rather the pretended than the real motive of her conduct. She is, of course, self-deluded; and furthermore encouraged by the placidity and easy submission of her husband in her course of domestic usurpation. Immediately he resumes his authority her power is gone. Mrs. Kean was always great in Mrs. Oakley, and she still maintains her supremacy in this difficult and arduous part. It requires immense physical strength, as well as continuous mental exertion, to give the requisite vitality and colour to so highly-wrought a dramatic personage. Then the contrast which Mr. Kean presents is perfectly delightful. He is just the very man to be "henpecked"—we are not quite sure he don't like it, so calmly patient he takes the infliction. Let us also award our tribute of praise to Mr. Cooper's *Major Oakley*, which so forcibly reminds us of the high and palmy days of the classic British stage. Last Thursday there was another morning performance of the pantomime; the theatre being again closed in the evening on account of the Royal theatricals at Windsor.

EDUCATIONAL SOIREE AT THE GORTON LOCOMOTIVE WORKS.

ON Saturday evening last the opening of a literary and educational institution, in connection with the extensive works of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, at Gorton, was celebrated by a soiree, at which upwards of 700 persons, including the workmen and their families, together with several gentlemen connected with the Company, were assembled.

The Chairman, Mr. Edward Watkin, General Manager of the Company, after proposing the healths of the Royal family, proposed "Prosperity to the Gorton Literary Institution," in an address of great length. After expatiating on the promising condition of the institution, Mr. Watkin observed, with regard to the meeting, that its great object was education, and it was well to bear in mind that, in these times of progress and improvement, the ignorant man was nobody. Although we might often see men rising from an obscure and humble station to a high position as regards wealth, we never found an instance where even the greatest progress as regards mere opulence had made an individual assume that position in society which, after all, was the great object to be struggled for. The ignorant man, whatever his position in society, was always found out. Men might conceal, and did conceal a great deal in this world, but they never could conceal the fact that they had allowed their intellect to lie dormant. And even if we chose to look at the matter merely as it affected our pecuniary interest, we might depend upon it that education was a wages question. The educated man, to whatever rank of life he belonged, was always able to command a position, and a rate of remuneration to which the ignorant man could never attain. It was a most lamentable fact that in this country nearly forty per cent of our whole population could not read or write; whilst in the United States we might traverse that country from east to west and from north to south, and not find a native American so ignorant. But the most important question was the education of the young. There were people who complained that the tendency of such institutions as this at Gorton was to give only a partial and imperfect knowledge, more injurious than beneficial. He, however, had no fear of the result of communicating a single atom of knowledge; because, if a man's opinions should, from a partial education, become for a time erroneous, the very fact of his going honestly wrong would bring him at last honestly right. Others objected that this system of education was productive of doubt. But what was doubt but the action of an inquiring mind? It was doubt that set Newton upon writing his "Principia"; it was doubt that assisted Newton in discovering the laws of gravitation; it was doubt that made Franklin inquire and investigate, till at last he brought down the lightning from the clouds; it was doubt that led Galileo to discover the movement of the earth—it was doubt that adorned and dignified the civilisation of the world (Cheers). He cared not that the knowledge given to the working man was small—let him attempt to make it greater; he cared not that the opinions given him were erroneous—let him reason upon them and get right; he cared not whether our education was not altogether as we wished it—let us once begin the good work, and it would go on and prosper, for the very mistakes of the commencement would set us on that sound inquiry resulting in the improvement of all our conclusions (Cheers). There was one question which should be asked of himself or herself by all of us in this world. Shall we consent to be mere parts of that inanimate and sluggish mass which in old times was called "the swinish multitude," which had been stigmatised as "the mob," but which had now been christened "the great substratum of society;" that mass of population which, like old Hobbes' definition of matter, was worked upon "as a thing which moveth not unless it be moved"? Or shall we determine to become intelligent and thinking members of society in a country which will prosper only in proportion as its individual members are intelligent? For those who chose the former path, on their heads be it. Those who chose the latter might be assured that, by that choice alone, they had set their foot upon the first round of the ladder of social and material progress (Cheers). He had great satisfaction in presiding at their inauguration, because he believed that, in anything they might do there, quietly and without ostentation, to improve the minds of themselves and of their children, they were assisting the onward progress of civilisation, they were tending to promote and increase the happiness of all around them, and they were hastening the coming of that glorious time, sung by poets, predicted in prophecy, and longed for by all, when the Genius of Freedom—fair daughter of Peace and Intelligence—shall settle on the earth, and gather under her wings the whole family of man (Loud cheers).

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 22, 1856.

| Month and Day. | Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M. 181 feet above sea level. | Thermometer. | | Rain in Inches. | Mean Temperature of the Day. | | Amount of Frost in the Night. | Amount of Snow in the Day. | |
|----------------|--|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| | | Highest Reading. | Lowest Reading. | | Wet Bulb. | Dry Bulb. | | In the Night. | In the Day. |
| Jan. 16 | 29.795 | 39.1 | 30.1 | 0.000 | 35.7 | 34.6 | 1 | 0 | 2.2 |
| " 17 | 29.370 | 47.0 | 37.0 | 0.105 | 43.2 | 41.9 | 1 | 4 | 10.0 |
| " 18 | 29.289 | 48.2 | 44.0 | 0.262 | 45.1 | 44.8 | 7 | 5 | 10.0 |
| " 19 | 29.069 | 46.8 | 41.3 | 0.154 | 42.5 | 42.5 | 8 | 2 | 9.0 |
| " 20 | 28.889 | 49.7 | 41.5 | 0.022 | 45.8 | 45.1 | 8 | 7 | 9.5 |
| " 21 | 28.975 | 45.0 | 32.5 | 0.735 | 37.6 | 37.7 | 2 | 0 | 10.0 |
| " 22 | 29.278 | 39.5 | 32.7 | 0.080 | 35.1 | 34.9 | 9 | 6 | 10.0 |
| Mean | 29.236 | 45.0 | 37.2 | 1.308 | 40.7 | 40.2 | 5.1 | 3.4 | 8.8 |

The range of temperature during the week was 19.6°.

The weather mild and rainy from the evening of the 17th, slight snow on 21st; a thaw commenced on the evening of the 18th.

The direction of the wind was on the 16th W.S.W., becoming S.W. at 2 a.m., W.S.W. at 5 a.m., moving through the W. to N. at 9 a.m., became N.N.E. at 10 a.m., N.E. at 4 p.m., E.N.E. at 5h. 30m. p.m., E. at 7h. 10m. p.m., becoming S.E. at 7h. 40m. p.m., S. at 9h. 30m. p.m.; became S.E. at 1h. 30m. a.m. on 17th, S.S.E. at 5 a.m., S. at 6h. 55m. a.m., S.E. at 7h. 35m. a.m., S.S.E. at 8 a.m., S. at 8h. 20m. a.m., S.S.W. at 9h. 55m. a.m., S.W. at 10 a.m., S.S.W. at 12h. 30m. p.m., S. at 1h. 30m. p.m., S.S.W. at 2h. 45m. p.m., S.W. at 4h. 15m. p.m., S.S.W. at 12h. 30m. a.m. on 18th, S.S.W. at 1h. 15m. a.m., W.S.W. at 7 a.m., S.W. at 2 p.m., S. at 6h. 45m. p.m., S.S.E. at 7h. 30m. p.m., S. at 10h. 30m. p.m.; S.S.E. at 3 a.m. on 19th, E.S.E. at 4h. 15m. a.m., S.S.E. at 5 a.m., S.E. at 7h. 45m. a.m., S.S.E. at 11 a.m., S. at 3 p.m.; S.S.E. at 1h. 30m. a.m. on 20th, S. at 5 a.m., S.S.W. at 5h. 45m. a.m., S.W. at 6h. 30m. a.m., S.S.W. at 4h. 15m. p.m., S.W. at 11 p.m.; at 1 a.m. on 21st, moved through the W. to N., became N.N.E. at 1h. 15m. a.m., N.E. at 7h. 30m. a.m.; E.N.E. at 12h. 30m. p.m. on 22nd, E. at 3 p.m., in which quarter it remained. Thus the direction of the wind was very variable during the week.

E. J. LOWE.

THE PROPOSED CAMPAIGN OF 1856.—The Paris correspondent of *Le Nord* says that the following obtains belief in diplomatic circles in that city:—"Baron de Seebach informed Count Nesselrode that, if the negotiations failed to establish peace, the plan of campaign for this year would consist in making Austria and Prussia cede Galicia and the Duchy of Posen in order to reconstitute the kingdom of Poland; an Austrian Archduke would become independent Sovereign of Poland, and a land force would operate in Finland. The English would engage to take Cronstadt. The Principalities would be ceded to Austria, with the frontiers pushed back in Bessarabia as far as the line of mountains fixed in the first of the four propositions. Finally, the Prussian ports would be strictly blockaded."

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has sent Mr. Alison, one of his secretaries, on a secret mission into the Danubian Provinces, for the purpose of ascertaining the state of public feeling there.

The Prince of Serbia has dismissed the editor of a Servian journal for having published an article extracted from the *Northern Bee* of St. Petersburg.

Lord Ashburton has offered to engage a gentleman at his own expense, for one year, to deliver a series of lectures before the members of the Yorkshire Mechanics' Institutions, on subjects of interest to them, and to place him under the direction of the committee of the Union.

The physicians despair of saving the life of Prince Paskiewitch; the cancer has manifested itself externally. At present he is under the magnetic treatment of Baron Klotz.

The Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, who have been staying for some time at Nice, intend to visit the Crimea and Sebastopol before returning to England.

Prince Ghika, the Hospodar of Moldavia, has addressed an official declaration to his Suzerain, the Sultan, to the effect that, at the expiration of the term of his government (the 1st May, 1856), he will resign his functions.

Mr. S. Warren, Q.C., is to be the Conservative candidate to fill the vacancy at Midhurst of Mr. Walpole, who retires.

A lady is likely to succeed Count Overoff as President of the Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg. Two male candidates are in the field—M. Noraff, Minister of Public Instruction, and Baron Modeste de Korff. But the chances are said to be in favour of the Grand Duchess Helen.

Mr. Pashley, the barrister, has been appointed the Judge of the Middlesex Sessions, in the place of Mr. Serjeant Adams. The salary is £1200 a year. Mr. Bodkin, it is said, declined the offer of the appointment by the Government.

Preparations are being made in Germany to celebrate with great pomp the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Mozart, which will fall on the 27th June next. At Gotha, Berlin, Vienna, Munich, Dresden, Carlsruhe, Darmstadt, and Hamburg, the Governments have devoted ample funds for the purpose.

A number of students at the Finland University have been sent to prison for drinking "Success to the Allies," and "Prosperity to Sweden."

Dr. Vehse has been allowed to go at large after giving securities, to the amount of 4000 dollars, for his appearance to answer the charges of libel brought against him at the instance of Prince William of Mecklenburg.

Instructions have been sent by the French Minister of War to the Generals commanding military divisions and subdivisions for the distribution of the English medal to military men of all ranks who have taken part in the campaign of the Crimea, and who are now in France.

On Tuesday last workmen were engaged in removing the hoarding round the statue of Sir Robert Peel at the end of Cheapside, and setting up the lamps and ornamental railings.

The arrangements on the Egyptian Railroad give great satisfaction. The railway carriages are very superior; each one cost £400.

In the Bernese Oberland, especially on the St. Gothard route, the temperature is just now extraordinarily mild. The snow melts and falls in heavy avalanches.

The Commissioners of Customs have granted permission to fortify foreign wines in bond with British spirit.

The bill for the loan of thirty millions has been adopted by the Sardinian Chamber of Deputies by a majority of 109 to 28.

The new iron auxiliary screw-steam-ship *Royal Charter* sailed from Liverpool on the 18th for Melbourne, with 260 passengers, including Dr. Scoresby. It is confidently expected that she will make the run in less than sixty days.

An extraordinary mine of gold, yielding five to seven ounces to the ton, has been discovered on the Isthmus of Panama, and is easily accessible from the sea. The gold is found in four immense veins of quartz.

The French Minister of War has just entered into a contract with the cloth-manufacturers of Elbeuf for the supply of 144,000 metres of cloth for the army, to be delivered during the present year.

It is generally understood that the Queen will open Parliament in person on the 31st instant.

Orders have been given by the Emperor Alexander scrupulously to observe, in the approaching election of the Catholic Archbishop of Wilna, the terms of the convention made with the Pope.

The Emperor of Austria has signed an organic decree in reference to the Protestants in his dominions, which is said to be liberal, with the exception that it prohibits the marriage of any Catholic priest converted to Protestantism.

The address in the Commons will be moved by the Hon. G. H. C. Byng, M.P. for Tavistock; and will be seconded by Mr. W. E. Baxter, M.P. for Montrose.

On Sunday last the French Emperor and Empress received several foreigners of distinction, who were presented by the Apostolic Nuncio, the Ministers of Austria, Bavaria, Wirtemberg, and Mecklenburg-Schwerin. The British Ambassador presented to their Majesties Sir William, Lady, and the Misses Alay, General Derville, and Lieutenant-Colonel Airey. The Emperor afterwards gave a private audience to M. Olozaga, the Spanish Minister, recently returned to Paris from Spain.

Orders have been received at Pembroke-yard from the Admiralty to prepare a set of drawings of the *Victor Emmanuel* (late Brunswick) for his Majesty the King of Sardinia.

When the Emperor of Austria appeared at the Opera on the 18th inst. he was received with such prolonged applause that he was obliged to rise three several times. It appeared as if the audience wished to express its approbation of the recent policy of the Monarch.

The King of Prussia has been prevented during two or three days from quitting his apartments in consequence of a slight catarrhal indisposition. The ball intended to be given at Court last week was countermanded in consequence.

An Imperial decree nominates Mr. Brassey, the well-known railway contractor, a Knight of the Legion of Honour.

The Emperor Napoleon has created Commander Ducrest de Villeneuve an officer, and Lieutenants Le Roubeau, Fillan, and Morell Chevaliers, of the "Imperial order of the Legion of Honour," for distinguished services in the field, and at the storming and capture of Sabagee on the 4th of August. The wounded soldiers—seven—received medals.

The Duke of Cambridge, General Della Marmora, General Airey, Sir Harry Jones, Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, and Admiral Dundas arrived at Dover, on their return from the Council of War at Paris, at five on Tuesday morning.

The *Gazette du Midi* announces that Louis Philippe's widow has had a relapse. Dr. Astros, of Marseilles, left on the 16th for Nervi, to visit the angust patient.

On the 18th inst. the representatives of France, England, Belgium, Denmark, and Hanover, assembled at the house of Count Buol, at Vienna. After this conference, the Ambassadors of France and England dispatched couriers to their respective Governments.

General Lüders has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the armies in Southern Russia and in the Crimea. "Prince Gortschakoff is to have another appointment."

Sir Hamilton Seymour, who, from not being able to find a suitable house, is still residing at the Hotel of the Roman Emperor, is at present in treaty with Prince Liechtenstein for a suite of apartments containing forty rooms in the Prince's Palace, Herrngasse, No. 251, to take possession in April next.

It is very generally believed that Prince Gortschakoff will not long continue to represent Russia at Vienna, as even his best friends acknowledge that he has made what in Italy is called a "fiasco."

The Right Hon. Spencer Horatio Walpole has accepted the office of Archbishop's Church Estates Commissioner, vacated by the lamented decease of the Right Hon. Henry Goulburn. The income attached to the office is £1000 a year.

A cricket match on the ice took place at Long Meadows, Oxford, the other day. Every player was an expert skater, and the falls were not many.

An American schooner, the *Alexander Mitchell*, is said to have lately shipped and carried off upwards of 300 slaves between Cape Palmas and the Bights, after leaving Monrovia, where she had called in with a cargo of American produce.

The Government shipwrights at Dantzic are engaged upon the construction of two 28-gun steam-corvettes, of 300-horse power, to be named *Gazelle* and *Arcona*.

The eighty economical food-kitchens established at Paris at their own expense by the Emperor and Empress have admirably succeeded. Placed under the direction of the Sisters of Charity, they sell, or rather distribute, food of excellent quality every day, from nine a.m. to four p.m., to a multitude of indigent consumers.

THE FRONTIER LANDS OF AUSTRIA, RUSSIA, AND TURKEY.

THE proposal for a rectification of the line of frontier between Russia and Turkey, and for the establishment of the government of Moldavia and Wallachia upon a new basis, freed from the protection of Russia, formulated in the Austrian ultimatum, naturally attracts attention to that portion of the map of Europe which embraces the boundaries and territories in question. These lands, though their history has not been so prominently before the eye of the general observer as some other parts of Europe, nevertheless team with interesting associations—with events scarcely second in importance to any which have occurred in modern history.

As the Low Countries and the Rhenish provinces were during two entire centuries the battle-field upon which the Middle and Western Powers of Europe supported their pretensions, and finally arranged the balance of power between them, so the territories north of the Danube as far as the Baltic, and to the east as far as the Dnieper, have been the theatre upon which the States of the Middle and West of Europe have, during an equal length of time, been combating the assaults and encroachments of two rival Eastern Powers—the once haughty Ottoman, the now insolent Russ: upon the ultimate adjustment of whose position will depend the future fate of Europe and of civilisation generally. We propose now to take a bird's-eye view of the vast territory of mixed nationalities forming the frontier lands between Austria, Russia, and Turkey—making some observations on their past history as connected with the general scheme of European policy.

And first, stretching across the north, as far east as the Dnieper; just above the boundaries of Hungary and Moldavia, the eye lights upon a tract of country which it is impossible to contemplate without shame and regret. Eighty years ago, all this tract was part of ancient Poland—whose partition by Russia, Austria, and Prussia has been forcibly described as “the crime of an age”—an age by no means free from other offences.

Passing now to Hungary, we find antecedents somewhat similar to those of Poland; the main difference being that in this case there has been absorption of Sovereignty without partition. The race of Geisa—its hereditary Kings—failing in 1301, the throne became elective, and passed successively to various princely families. At length Ferdinand I. of Austria, who had married Anne, sister of Louis II., King of Hungary and Bohemia, pretended to claim succession to the Crown as of hereditary right. John Zapolski, Waywood of Transylvania, however, was elected King by the Hungarians, and, feeling himself too weak to support his right against Ferdinand, called in the Turks to his aid, and thereupon followed a series of wars, in which, at different periods, the arms of the Infidels seriously threatened the very existence of Christian Germany. It was not until 1687 that the Crown of Hungary was declared hereditary in the House of Austria—a declaration renewed and confirmed by the voice of the nation in 1723. How nobly the Hungarians rallied to the support of their Queen Maria Theresa in 1740 is known to all; and how ill their loyalty has been since requited, their nationality trampled under foot within our own days, is a subject too painful for generous minds to contemplate. There can be no doubt that the subjugation of the liberties of Hungary in 1849, by the aid of Russian bayonets, has had a direct influence in hurrying on the Russian scheme of aggression which we are now endeavouring to frustrate.

Transylvania occupies an important site—between Hungary on the west, the Austrian-Polish States on the north, and Moldavia and Wallachia on the east and south. It is naturally a strong position; the very name meaning “beyond the forests”—implying its rude and primitive condition—being surrounded on all sides by mountains covered with trees. This province was ceded to Austria by the Turks by the treaty of Carlowitz in 1699. In common with the neighbouring provinces of Wallachia and Moldavia, it is rich in agricultural and other natural produce.

The fertility of the soil of this important and favoured territory has from the earliest period of history been celebrated throughout Europe. “The fertile soil (says the author of the “Frontier Lands of the Christian and the Turk”), still as productive as it was when the Emperor Trajan obtained supplies from his 30,000 Roman colonists for the army which he sent against the Scythians and Sarmatians, was a bait for the covetousness and ambition of Peter; for he foresaw of what advantage might be to him the possession of such a resource in his wars with Turkey—so varied are the articles produced in the wooded and picturesque tracts of country near the Carpathian Mountains, and in the bare, flat, and marshy plains towards the Danube. Grain of different kinds, wool, butter, honey, wax, tallow, salt, timber, and salted provisions, were already exported in great quantities to the market of Constantinople; and horses, oxen, hogs, and hides, were poured into Germany to a vast amount.”

This is exactly the class of goods which might be advantageously exchanged with a great manufacturing and commercial state. England might carry on an almost unlimited trade here, yet such has been the baneful effect of Russian interference, that our dealings in this quarter have hitherto been few and insignificant. Previously to the breaking out of the war, the whole annual amount of our exports to the Danubian Provinces, including Bulgaria, having a population of upwards of eight millions, was only £700,000, or less than two shillings a head. There is little doubt that when those provinces are free and happy, and the navigation of the Danube is thrown open, this commerce will be quadrupled.

One very injurious feature in the Turkish policy as regards the Moldo-Wallachian Principalities is that by which they are treated precisely as Foreign States, and the least favoured of Foreign States. This policy has been sedulously promoted by the arts of Russia, who saw her gain in severing the Moldo-Wallachians from the Ottoman empire, in circumstances, and feelings, and interests. Accordingly, a complete barrier has been established between the two banks of the Danube; the produce of the right bank paying a duty on entering the Principalities, merchandise having already paid full duties in Turkey, being again taxed on the left bank of the Danube, although it is still within the empire; and grain purchased in Bulgaria being prohibited on the opposite shores of Wallachia and Moldavia, even when purchased for the purpose of exportation. It is needless to say that Moldavia, Wallachia, and Bulgaria have been alike losers by this pernicious policy.

The importance of the Danube navigation as a question *per se*, has been, up to a recent period, very much overlooked by European States. Amidst the din of arms, and the clamour and intrigues of diplomacy at the principal seats of Government, the unpretending claims of commerce, as associated with the banks of this river, have been little thought of, and less understood. Russia alone has been aware of the money value of the interests involved, and has been, during a series of years, sedulously employed in arranging matters so as ultimately to convert this field of wealth entirely to her own use; and, in the interim, to prevent its being enjoyed by others, in a way to enter into competition with herself. By the Treaty of Adrianople, in 1829, the extended Russian jurisdiction on the Danube is thus defined:—

The frontier line will follow the course of the Danube to the St. George's Mouth, leaving all the islands formed by the different branches in the possession of Russia. The right bank will remain as formerly in the possession of the Ottoman Porte. It is, however, agreed that the right bank, from the point where the arm of St. George departs from that of the Sulince, shall remain uninhabited to a distance of two hours (two leagues) from the river, and that no kind of structure shall be raised there; and in like manner on the islands which will remain in the possession of the Court of Russia. With the exception of quarantines, which will be there established, it will not be permitted to make any other establishment or fortification.

Russia took advantage of the last sentence in this Article to establish, under the semblance of quarantine stations, fortifications and fleets of gun-boats, which gave her the absolute command of the navigation of the river; and this power she has frequently used to prevent the transit of vessels even of neutral and friendly nations. That this has been done more upon commercial than strategic considerations, with a view to the perquisition of roubles, is undoubted. Every shipload of tallow, or grain, or hemp, or peltry exported would enter into competition with the trade of Odessa and St. Petersburg; and as such it became obviously necessary to restrain the trade of so dangerous a rival. A document was issued some years back at Odessa, under the authority of Count Woronzow, which set forth those views very plainly, and without any attempt at disguise. It states:—

Although the three principal mouths of the Danube are in the power of Russia, it is only a small number of her products that are exported by the two ports of Bessarabia—Ismael and Reni. The towns of Galatz and Ibrail, the only *débouchés* of Moldavia and Wallachia, pour the superfluity of these rich provinces into the commerce of the Black Sea. The protecting sceptre of Russia has created these formidable rivals of herself. If the obstacles which have hitherto impeded the navigation of the Danube come to be entirely removed, this will much facilitate the vent of Austrian articles of merchandise in the Provinces, and will open for some of them a way to arrive at other countries.

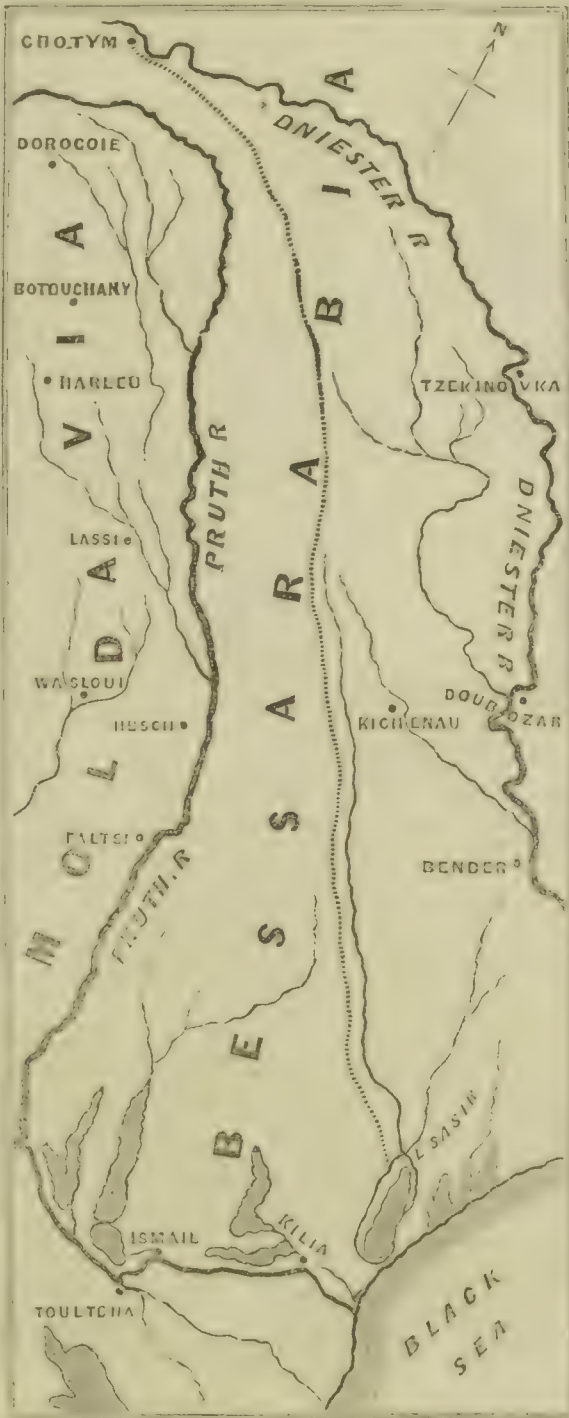
The advantages of this navigation for the trade of the Principalities, which consists principally in exchanges for the products of Austria, are incalculable. Galatz, especially, will gain by it greatly as an entrepôt for Austrian goods,

which will be sent thence to the Levant and the ports of the Black Sea. Austria may even export by the Danube the wheat of the Banat, which can be bought on the spot at eleven roubles the *thuytwert*, and is said to be of a superior quality. The hemp of Hungary, of which the English have already made great purchases, and formed depôts at Apathin and at Eszek (whence it is sent by water to Sisek and Carlstadt), and from these places by land to Trieste (might here find, perhaps, an easier route than by Trieste, as well as timber, which is at present sent with difficulty to Fium. Galatz and Ibrail are about to cultivate virgin countries, and of great extent. Ismael and Reni (the Russian ports) must necessarily attach themselves to these giants, which threaten to overwhelm them. So long as those who are engaged in the trade of Ibrail and Galatz shall be free from every impost, it would be necessary at least to reserve to the merchants of Bessarabia the same immunity to prevent their leaving the country, as many of them have already done.

These statements speak for themselves; they reveal the motives of Russia in her policy in this quarter, and set in their true light the momentous interests which are at stake in the adjustment of her pretensions to naval supremacy in the Black Sea, and its great tributary river.

THE PROPOSED NEW FRONTIER LINE.

The accompanying smaller Map shows the line of the existing, and the proposed new, frontier line between Russia and Turkey. The main object in view in the new boundary is to push back Russia from the immediate neighbourhood of the Danube, and to free the commerce of that noble river from influences which, as has just been shown, have proved so adverse to the interests of neighbouring States and of the general community.



Present Boundary, the Course of the Pruth. Proposed New Boundary between Chotym and Lake Esik, thus

MAP, SHOWING THE PROPOSED NEW FRONTIER LINE.

It may be sufficient to review briefly the steps by which Russia gradually arrived at the boundary which it is now proposed to disturb. By the Treaty of Jassy, 1792, she was confirmed in the possession of the Crimea, Kuban, and part of Bessarabia—the Dniester forming a portion of her boundary in this quarter. By the Treaty of Bucharest in 1812 the Pruth became the boundary of Russia, who thus became possessed of that portion of the north bank of the Danube intervening between the junction of the Pruth and the Black Sea. This, however, was not sufficient to give her all that her ambition aimed at; and, by the Treaty of Adrianople, as already stated, Russia obtained possession of the islands formed in the delta of the river, which afterwards enabled her to usurp the complete control and dominion over the traffic of the river.

In now rectifying this abuse, the Austrian negotiators propose to restrict the territorial possessions of Russia as little as possible. They do not go back to the time of the Treaty of Jassy, and replace the boundary at the Dniester; but they take a middle course, which cuts Bessarabia in two unequal portions. This proposed line (marked in dots upon the map) is to commence at the fortress of Chotym, on the Dniester, and follow a line of mountains running in a south-eastern direction to Lake Esik. The gore-shaped strip of land thus cut off and lying between the chain of mountains just spoken of, and the Pruth is to be added to the Principalities, under the suzerainty of the Porte. It is said that the portion of territory thus to exchange hands is, intrinsically, of no great value; but in point of policy its possession will be of the highest importance. Chotym was the northernmost fort of the Ottoman empire down to the end of the eighteenth century. We understand that the Russians may endeavour to retain this important fortress, but this could not possibly be allowed—it being the key to Moldavia.

It has been suggested by the friends of Russia that to secure the navigation of the Danube from Russian control, it would be sufficient to have drawn a line from the junction of the Pruth with the Danube at (say) Reny to near Lake Esik, and it is supposed that some proposition of this kind was contained in the Russian terms sent by Count Stackelberg. But the idea carries absurdity upon the very face of it, and could not be listened to for a moment. This plan would still have left Russia in possession of one bank of the Pruth, and consequently of the right of outlet into the Danube; and it would also have left the capital of Moldavia (Jassy) in dangerous proximity to the Russian frontier, which, under the arrangements proposed in the Austrian ultimatum, will not be the case.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

Those who really look in earnest for consolation may find it at every turn. We are not carrying our Table Talk into the pulpit. Wednesday's papers announce that the public loses for ever the Parliamentary services of one well-known author, and is about to acquire the Parliamentary services, for the first time, of another well-known author. If Edinburgh loses Mr. Macaulay, Midhurst gains Mr. Samuel Warren. The brilliant historian and essayist is about to retire from the fever of politics and the violence of party into literary life. The lively novelist is about to surrender the pay of Mr. Publisher Blackwood for the chance of office and the storms of Parliamentary success. If we lose in Mr. Warren by this change other novels like “Ten Thousand a Year,” we are likely to gain at an earlier date other instalments of that history which Whigs condemn as too Tory in its tone, and Tories denounce as too Whiggish in its feeling.

By the way, there is some humour in the reason assigned for the long delay that has occurred between the publication of the first portion of Mr. Macaulay's “History” and the appearance of the second. The author is so much enamoured of his model hero, it is said, that he is unwilling to kill King William. He cannot part with his hero.

Men of mark are commenting freely on the admirable concluding article in the *Times* on Mr. Macaulay's “History.” The critic has arrested two pompous interments done with as lavish an expense of theatrical effect in words as the Duke of Wellington's funeral was lavish in blacks and undertaker's trappings. For the sake of a pointed paragraph Mr. Macaulay has buried Lord Chancellor Jeffreys in the Tower, by the side of the Duke of Monmouth—the oppressor by the oppressed.

Drop upon Fox's grave the tear,
’Twill trickle to his rival's bier.

But, alas! Jeffreys was never buried in the Tower. The Judge of the Bloody Assizes sleeps securely in another quarter of this vast city. Then, for the sake of effect, Mr. Macaulay has led his readers to believe that the great Duke of Schomberg was buried with Kings, in all funeral pomp, in the Abbey at Westminster, and that the order for his interment was that afterwards adopted in our own time for the great Duke of Wellington; just as he tells us that the order pursued in giving the thanks of the Commons to the Duke in 1814 was based on that which was adopted in giving the thanks of the House to the Duke of Schomberg. Alas for historical truth! Schomberg was buried beneath a nameless stone in the Cathedral of Dublin; and owed his monument and epitaph, not to the “hero William,” but to that poor retainer of Temple's whom he taught—and it was all he did for him—to cut asparagus in the Dutch fashion.

We are sadly in want of a life of Sir Harry Vane the younger. We have nothing of the kind that is even ordinarily decent in that way. Yet Vane was one of those men who filled a most conspicuous, and often a secret but influential, part in the history of England between 1640 and 1660—a memorable period in the story of this country. We have been induced to make these remarks after reading the will of this “brave Senator”—a curious document, to which no allusion that we can find has hitherto been made, and which (through the courtesy of the Rev. James Raine, jun., an excellent antiquary himself, and son of the learned historian of Durham) we are enabled to print for the first time:—

WILL OF SIR HENRY VANE THE YOUNGER.

In the name of God amen. I Henry Vane of Raby Castle in the county of Durham Esqr being att present in perfect health and memory (blessed be God) doe make this my last will and testament. 1. I bequeath to my most deare mother the Lady Vane the case of diamonds which incloseth the King of Sweede's picture desiring if shee please to putt therein my father's picture and soe to weare it in remembrance of me. 2. I bequeath to my sister Frances Vane the two lesser stones of the King of Denmarke's ring which hee gave me desiring shee will pardon the littleness of the gift. I give her alsoe a bond which I have of hers to me among my papers for about twelve pounds sterlinge. 3. I give unto my second sister Albinia Vane the middle great stone of the aforesaid ring as alsoe the King of Sweden's picture which is in the case aforesaid both now in the hands of Mr. William Stanley. I desire alsoe that my red trunk may bee given into her hands wherein are all my papers. 4. I bequeath unto my sisters Dorothy Vane Anne Vane and Margaret Vane my little black cabinet to divide the things amongst them. 5. I bequeath unto my brother Thomas Vane the embroydered orange velvet saddle and holsters which the King of Sweden gave me. 6. As for my man Owen I desire that as hee hath served me very diligently and well hee may bee rewarded out of my cloathes. And in witness that this is my true will and testament I hereto sett my hand and seale this second June att Copenhagen in the yere one thousand six hundred and sixty. H. VANE.

[Administration granted to Dame Frances Vane widow 11 Sep. 1662.]

Why does Sir Henry Vane designate himself as Henry Vane, Esq.? Perhaps Garter, or York, or Rouge Dragon will favour us with a line on this subject?

James Hope Scott, Esq., who married the only surviving grandchild of Sir Walter Scott, is adding a Roman Catholic chapel to the poet's romance in stone and lime. We are sorry for this. We regret to see any addition to a building so classic as Abbotsford, or any alteration therein. It should be kept intact. Mr. Hope Scott should look upon it as a kind of public trust. This, however, is, perhaps, asking too much. The alteration is suggestive:—

What's property, dear Swift! You see it alter
From you to me, from me to Peter Walter.

“I never,” said Lord Grenville to Mr. Rogers, the poet, “look on Lord Verulam without saying to myself, somewhat vindictively, that is the booby who pulled down Lord Bacon's house at Gorhambury.”

The new number of the *Quarterly* contains an article on “Table Talk,” not without value in its way, but heavy in point of execution. Such a subject should be treated with a learned and yet a light hand. One assertion it contains is amusing a large circle of diners-out. “Conversation,” we are told, “is at a low ebb in England at present.” Conversation at a low ebb in England! Not it.

What things have we seen
Done at the —! heard words that have been
So nimble, and so full of subtle flame,
As if that every one from whence they came
Had meant to put his whole wit in a jest.

Yes, and did it. Some one asked, probably alluding to the writer of the article, “Is conversation better in Galloway?” while another added (alluding to the editor), “Does the *Quarterly* test England by Norfolk north of Norwich?”

The executors of Mr. Rogers, the poet, have now definitively arranged that the whole of his effects to be sold shall pass under the hammer of Messrs. Christie and Manson.

There is no truth in the rumour that Mr. E. T. Smith, the lessee of Drury Lane, is about to remove the “Vivat Regina” from the playbills of his theatre, though his refusal to allow some of his company to play at the palace of his Sovereign gives some colour to the talk of the town.

Poor Joseph Haydn—whose miserable pension we were the first to announce to the public—is no more. He died on the 17th inst. His works are useful, but they have at least their full share of reputation. His completion of Beaton, called the “Book of Dignities,” is not up to the mark of Beaton; and yet Beaton was in want of a new editor—one who would collate his appointments by letters patent and the *London Gazette*. All who love history for truth's sake must know how much depends at times on the difference of a single day—how an assertion may be refuted by a date, as an accusation by an alibi.

A Reformatory School for Essex was decided on at a meeting held on Monday, presided over by the Sheriff, and attended by the most influential gentlemen of the county.

The engineers sent out to survey the Isthmus of Suez have returned to Alexandria, and generally report favourably on the practicability of the canal to join the Mediterranean and Red Sea.



PRIVATE JOHN PENN, 17TH LANCERS, WITH ELEVEN HONOURS, FROM THE CRIMEA.
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.

A CRIMEAN HERO, WITH ELEVEN HONOURS.

It has been well remarked of this brave soldier, Private John Penn, of the 17th Lancers, that "his honours for military services are equal to any in the British Army"—a distinction which certainly entitles his portrait to a place in our gallery of Crimean heroes.

The eventful career of John Penn presents a noteworthy instance of devotion to a noble object.

He was born in the 14th Regiment of Light Dragoons, and was left an orphan before he was eight years of age, by the death of his father, Farrier-Major Penn. At fourteen he was taken into the service of Lady John Bethell; but, not content with that situation, and his whole wish being for a dragoon's life, he entered the cavalry as soon as he had attained the standard height.

This excellent soldier has seen eighteen years' service. He was through the Afghanistan campaign, under General Pollock, for which he received the Cabul medal. He was also through the Sutlej campaign, under Lord Gough. He was in the memorable action of Moodkee—was then severely wounded, and received a contusion on the head from the blow of a sponge staff from a Sikh artilleryman. In the capturing of the guns he was unhorsed, and was found in the field next morning by a reconnoitring party, the poor fellow having lain there all night in great suffering. His wounds were dressed, and within two days of the battle of Sobraon he rejoined his regiment, and took part in that action, for which he received a clasp. He was with the army at Lahore, and until the close of the war; he was again in the field at Ramnuggur; he was also at the forcing of the passage of the Chenab. He was next at the brilliant attack of Soodoolapore, where the Sikhs were driven from their position on the Chenab. He was also in the action of Chillianwallah, 1849. He fought at Goojerat, when the Sikhs were again defeated, which was the last battle fought with that race of Indians. The 3rd Light Dragoons were then ordered to England, which they reached in July, 1853. Penn had not been many days at home when, hearing that the 17th Lancers were ordered for Turkey, he volunteered into that corps; and on the 23rd of June, 1854, he embarked at Portsmouth with a detachment of the 6th Inniskillings, 13th Light Dragoons, 17th Lancers, and fifty-seven horses, under Captain the Hon. Hercules Rowley, the present Lord Langford. They arrived at Varna in July following. On the 1st September Penn proceeded to the Crimea. He was in the action of the Alma; he was with his troop at Mackenzie's Farm when the Russian baggage and stores were captured; and in the Light Cavalry charge of Balaklava, for which he received the medal for distinguished conduct in the field. He speaks very highly of the lance, a weapon of which the Russians are very much in dread. Unfortunately for many of the brave fellows of his

duty at Baldar, his head became affected, which caused him to be invalided home. This arose from his having his right collar-bone fractured, and the lower jaw broken by a horse falling on him when he was at field-drill in India in 1852.

PITCAIRN'S ISLAND.

An interesting communication has just been received from this place. The inhabitants were all well on the 14th September, 1855, the date of the Chaplain's letter to the Rev. T. B. Murray. They had heard of the death of the Czar Nicholas; but, as no newspaper was on board the vessel which conveyed the intelligence, they were still in the dark. Though they had suffered some anxiety from a poor yam harvest, they had a good stock of sweet potatoes to turn to, and the "pinch of the year" was past. They were awaiting the measures of Government for their transfer to Norfolk Island, some having relinquished house-building in expectation of this important change. It appears, by accounts from Sydney, that Sir W. Denison, Governor of New South Wales, had, in September last, under instructions from home, dispatched a vessel to Pitcairn's Island, with a view of making arrangements. It was intended that, on her return to Sydney, a transport should be fitted out, for the purpose of conveying the islanders to their new and beautiful abode.

The accompanying view of the Island was sketched from H.M.S. *Amphitrite*, in March last.

"We arrived (says a Correspondent) at Valparaiso, on the 19th March, after a long and tedious cruise from San Francisco, touching at Sandwich and Society Islands, also Pitcairn's Island, on our way down. While we were at the Sandwich Isles, King Kamehameha III. died, at the age of forty-one, of excessive drinking.

"We arrived at Pitcairn's Island on the 17th February. The islanders came off in a whale-boat, and seemed glad to see us. The Captain and officers spent the day on shore, and were most kindly treated. In the evening we went to the schoolhouse, where all the people assembled, sung very nicely, and finished with "God Save the Queen." We took a cow and several other useful presents to the islanders. They now number between 180 and 190, and talk about removing to Norfolk Island this year; but I think the greater proportion will remain at Pitcairn's, being much attached to it. It is, however, impossible they can all remain there much longer, it being only five miles in circumference, and a great deal of the island is too mountainous to cultivate. They live principally on yams and sweet potatoes; which they till with great success, theirs being the finest I have seen in the Pacific. Animal food they indulge in only on Sundays. On February

18th we left, and arrived at Valparaiso the 19th March, having gone over upwards of 104,000 miles during the commission."

MARRIAGE OF SIR ROBERT PEEL AND LADY

EMILY HAY.

We this week engrave the superb Wedding Cake prepared for this memorable occasion. It was placed in the centre of the table with the wedding collation, in the Waterloo Gallery, at Apsley House. The cake was six feet in height, and was perhaps the largest piece of confectionery on record. It was formed by three steps; the first supporting vases of bridal flowers, with cornucopias of fruit between them; the next gradation supported ornamental pillars; and the third, which was garlanded by wreaths, displayed shields of the Tweeddale and



MARRIAGE OF SIR ROBERT PEEL AND LADY EMILY HAY.—THE
BRIDECAKE.

Peel arms, with their respective family mottoes. A Corinthian pillar, rising above all, supported a large figure of Cupid, with his bow unbent, and holding a garland of flowers. This cake was a triumph in the Italian art of confectionery. It was modeled, as well as made, in the Duke of Wellington's own establishment, by M. Carlo Brunetti.

Next week we shall engrave the magnificent scene of the Waterloo Gallery during the wedding collation.



PITCAIRN'S ISLAND.—SKETCHED FROM H.M.S. "AMPHITRITE."



NEW MUSIC-HALL, EVANS'S HOTEL, COVENT-GARDEN.

NEW MUSIC-HALL IN COVENT-GARDEN.

A VOLUME of very pleasant gossip might be written about the notabilities who have lived in Covent-garden within the last two centuries; indeed, it has been a locality of great interest for six centuries past, or when it was the garden of the Abbey of St. Peter, at Westminster—whence Covent, corrupted to *Covent*, Garden, which name occurs in a deed of the ninth year of the reign of Elizabeth. All our London antiquaries and topographers have found this "Garden" full of anecdotic sweets, which they have scarcely known how to leave, more especially as it has been for ages the great focus of town pleasure; and from its contiguity to the Cockpit and Drury-lane Theatre, it became early surrounded with taverns, at which clubs were held, and all the phases of gay life were recklessly indulged in. We must, however, beware of these attractions; for our present purpose is merely to glance at the former fortunes of a small space, at the north-western angle of "the Garden," before we describe the very elegant improvement which forms the subject of our illustration. In this north-west angle, then, lived Sir Kenelm Digby, who was here much visited by the lovers of philosophy and mathematical learning. Aubrey, in his "Lives," thus distinctly points out the site of Digby's House:—

Since the restoration of Ch. II. he (Sir Kenelm Digby) lived in the last aire house westward in the north portico of Covent Garden, where my Lord Denzill Holles lived since. He had a laboratory there. I think he dyed in this house. Sed qu.

The mansion was subsequently altered, if not rebuilt, for the Earl of Orford, better known by the name of Admiral Russell, who, in 1692, defeated Admiral de Tourville, near La Hogue, and ruined the French fleet. The house is built of fine red brick; and, before recent alterations, the façade was thought to resemble the fore-castle of a ship. The grand staircase is formed of part of the Admiral's vessel, which he commanded at La Hogue: it has handsomely-carved anchors, ropes, &c., and the coronet and cipher of Lord Orford. Subsequently lived here Lord Archer, who married the daughter of Mr. West, whose fine library, prints and drawings, coins and medals, occupied Paterson the auctioneer nine weeks to dispose of. After the sale, the house was opened as a family hotel, in 1773, by one David Lowe, this being the first establishment of the kind formed in London; and when Mrs. Hudson succeeded as proprietor, about 1790, she advertised "Stabling for one hundred noble men and horses." The premises were next noted as "Joy's Hotel," when the large dining-room was called "the Star," from the number of men of rank who frequented it. The eccentric Duke of Norfolk, and his friend Captain Morris, were among the latest visitors of this class. The upper portion of the mansion was subsequently let in suites of chambers, and the basement was next let to Mr. W. C. Evans, the comedian, of Covent-garden Theatre, by whom the great dining-room was converted into a "singing-room." Evans next became tenant of the whole of the premises, and

continued so until 1844, when he retired in favour of Mr. Green, the present proprietor.



MADAME LOLA MONTES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

In the rear of the premises was a garden; and here was formerly a small cottage, in which the Kembles, when in the zenith of their fame at Covent-garden Theatre, occasionally took up their abode; and here, we are informed, was born the highly-gifted Fanny Kemble. It is interesting to recall Sir Kenelm Digby and his grave friends, with their empirical doings and Digby's "Sympathetic Powder" fame, airing themselves in this identical garden, reduced in our time to a receptacle for a few sooty shrubs.

Meanwhile the great "singing-room" answered well its festive purposes; until the character of the entertainment, by the selection of music of a higher class than hitherto, brought so great an accession of visitors as to induce Mr. Green to extend his premises. He has accordingly built upon the site of the old garden (Digby's garden) an extremely handsome Hall, to which the former "singing-room" forms a sort of vestibule. The latter is hung with a collection of portraits of celebrated actors and actresses, mostly of our own time, which Mr. Green has collected; and a more appropriate gallery he could not have assembled for the gratification of his visitors.

The new Hall has been built from the designs of Mr. William Finch Hill, and is a very meritorious work. The proportions of the room, looking at it in section, is nearly square, being about 33 feet high, and as many wide: it is about 72 feet long from end to end; and with the old room, through which it is approached, the Hall is 113 feet in length.

This apartment is built in a bold, handsome style, having a coved ceiling, divided into compartments; four of the centre—flat, being for ventilation—are filled with an elegant open pattern; the others are to be filled with gilded arabesque ornaments.

Great brilliancy of effect is produced in the room by ten rich cut-glass gaseliers, or lustres for gas, eight of which have ten lights each, and two over the orchestra fifteen lights each; the entire number of gaslights being 120. There is likewise a range of jets all round the top of the cornice, which gives great lightness to the ceiling. The glass gaseliers, which are very superb, were designed and manufactured by Messrs. Defries and Sons, of Houndsditch, in the short space of six weeks, and fixed within two days; they are hung at such a height as to diffuse an abundant flood of light without fatigue to the eye. It is altogether a very successful specimen of gas lighting.

The length of the Hall is divided into four bays by fluted columns supporting a fine bold entablature and cornice. The bays on the left of the entrance lead to a recess, or aisle; those on the right have a private gallery, which is not used at present: beneath this are offices for refreshments, conveniently placed on a level with the Hall. Around the sides of the room, upon the floor, are richly-ornamented open plates for the admission of fresh warm air, the vitiated being driven through the pierced panels in the ceiling, and thence through the louvres in the roof. The columns between the nave and aisles are of Bath stone, fluted with wreathed Ionic caps and Bath-stone entablature. Over each of the eight pilasters there are figures modeled in plaster, representing Poetry, Drama, Music, &c. The columns upon the orchestra (which is

GOVERNESS, educated at a London College,

[illegible]



THE
SOLDIERS' INFANT HOME,
ROSSLYN PARK, HAMPSTEAD.

In addition to the dangers and accidents of war which fall to the share of our Army in the East, many a brave heart has had those troubles greatly increased by thoughts and fears for those who were dear to him left behind. In the labour of the trenches—in the midst of pestilence—in the nipping cold and burning heat, and in the roar of battle—many a British soldier has had his mind occupied by the little prattling children who were left without his care 3000 miles away; and the pangs of wounds have been increased by fears that these children would have no chance of knowledge, and that their lot was but too likely to be beggary and want. This must not, however, be; for the children of those who have fallen in the cause of their country must, as a matter of justice, be provided for.

With reflections of this kind we wended our way with no small pleasure towards Hampstead to visit an institution which has been opened as a Home for the Infant Children of soldiers—the children of those whose mothers have died, and left them without protection. Some of our artist readers will remember a beautiful avenue of trees, a little to the west of the road, at the foot of the hill which leads to Hampstead. This leads to Rosslyn House, an extensive structure, most delightfully situated amid shrubberies and gardens. The situation is most healthy; and, while peeping amongst the evergreens at the few roses which still bloomed, we thought of certain dingy courts and alleys where, instead of fresh air and the twittering of the birds, is polluted atmosphere and the sound of various kinds of vice.

We were readily admitted into the spacious hall of Rosslyn House, and found it really a choice and elegant specimen of domestic architecture.



THE SOLDIERS' INFANT HOME, ROSSLYN-PARK, HAMPSTEAD.

Beyond the hall a double row of polished marble Ionic pillars leads to a spacious staircase, of finished workmanship. The windows are in part filled with stained glass; and the whole has an air of great comfort and refinement. This leads to various large apartments, fitted

add to the success of the recruiting sergeant.

* Bishop Butler died in Vane House—a place which has some other interesting associations.

up as nurseries, &c. In a circular room were forty or fifty little girls under the care of the school-mistress. This is a pleasant room, looking into the garden, and having a fine view extending as far as the Epsom Downs. The rosy-faced children looked a wonder of neatness, dressed in their scarlet frocks and lilac pinafores. Most of these little ones have been rescued from great poverty and neglect. Here they will be reared in habits of industry—the greater part of them instructed in the duties of female domestic servants; while the more intelligent it is proposed to instruct as pupil teachers in the educational department of the establishment.

The Committee are also endeavouring to raise funds for the foundation of scholarships of the value of £20 per annum, to be distinguished by the names of famous officers who have fallen in the war. The children who have been instructed as pupil teachers will be eligible as candidates for such scholarships, which they will be allowed to hold for two years whilst being prepared as regimental school-mistresses. The sum £50 has been already subscribed for Raglan memorial scholarship, and a like sum for a Chester scholarship.

The dining-room and play-rooms are very convenient, and of much architectural beauty. Trusting to the goodness of the cause, the Committee hope, by their exertions, to have the means shortly of admitting 100 girls; and, in addition to Rosslyn House, have effected the purchase of Vane House—a building of the time of Charles I.—which is situated close by. It is intended to devote this building and Rosslyn House to the reception of girls only. Few persons who have not visited the grounds of Vane House can form an idea of their picturesque beauty; and we think that the knowledge that such homes are provided for the children of the soldiers who have fallen in our battles must very much

MANUFACTURE OF BAYONETS.

The present war having caused an unusual demand for weapons of every description, it was found impossible to obtain the requisite supply from the usual sources.

The Honourable Board of Ordnance therefore gladly availed themselves of the mechanical skill of Manchester and the surrounding towns to make up for the deficiency in the supply of bayonets, ramrods, sights, bands,

one formerly used, being much lighter and more serviceable. The present bayonet is 20½ inches long, fitted with the French locking ring, and weighs twelve ounces; it is fluted on the three sides of the blade.

We will briefly describe the process of manufacture of this formidable weapon. The sockets of bayonets, or the part that fits on the muzzle of the musket, is made of the best wrought iron, and the blade is of steel, the two parts being united by welding. The first operation is performed by a smith, and consists in cutting a round bar of wrought iron to the required lengths for making the sockets; the pieces of steel for the blades are cut from a square bar, and then submitted to the action of the forging machine, represented in Fig. 1. This machine was invented by Mr. Ryder, of Bolton. It is very ingenious in its construction, and has long been used for forging parts of machinery employed in spinning cotton; but the application of it to forging parts of bayonets is due to Mr. Preston: it consists of a series of hammers worked at a great speed by eccentrics on the top shaft. The object of this machine is to reduce one end of the square piece of steel and to make it round; a projection is, however, left at the extremity of the steel, which is bent to fit the round iron forming the socket. The parts thus formed—namely, the pieces for the socket and the blade—are then welded together, the greatest care being required in this operation. The partially-formed bayonet is then heated, and laid on the lower die of the stamping machine, shown in Fig. 2. The stamper, or the part that gives the requisite blow for shaping the socket of the bayonet, is made of a block of cast iron, weighing four or five cwt., in the lower surface of which is a recess corresponding to the recess in the die. This stamper is raised by machinery, and when it has attained sufficient altitude it disengages itself from the chains by which it is elevated, and drops on the partially-formed bayonet, thereby imparting to it the exact shape of the recesses in the die and stamper. This stamping machine in itself is similar to those generally used; but it is customary to raise the stamper by manual labour, whereas the steam engine is in this case made to do all the hard work, the attendant having nothing to do but to supply and remove the pieces to be stamped. The next operation is to bore a hole through the socket, which is done in an ordinary drilling machine. The partially-formed bayonets are then again heated, and the square bar of steel for the blade is drawn out, or lengthened, by a forging machine, similar to that shown in Fig. 1. The hammers of this machine are so constructed that the descent of each is diminished: consequently, the workmen, by first introducing the end of the bar of steel beneath the first hammer, reduces the bar to the thickness required for the point of the bayonet; he then passes it under the second, and then the third and fourth—by which means the requisite taper form is produced. The socket and blade of the bayonet being thus roughed out, or partly formed, the next operation is performed by the rolling-machine, shown in Fig. 3. This machine, which is invented and patented by Mr. Preston, though exceedingly simple in its construction, is of the greatest utility in the manufacture of bayonets, for by its aid, the manual labour hitherto required for making the three flutes, or grooves in the blade is dispensed with.

The principal parts of the machine consist of a sliding table, on which is a die for forming the two smaller flutes, and a shaft with an eccentric roller, to form the larger flute. When the machine is in motion the attendant lays one of the partly-formed bayonets, heated to a red heat, in the die of the table; this is then drawn under the eccentric roller, the action of which on the heated bayonet blade forces the metal into the die, thereby completing the flutes in a few seconds.

The subsequent operation of turning the outside of the socket and neck is performed by the ordinary tools for such purposes. The bayonets are then taken to the machine by which the slots or grooves are made in the socket for the stop motion of the locking ring.

The next operation is performed by the machine shown in Fig. 4. The socket of the bayonet is attached to a stud, to which a slow rotary motion is given; and above the stud is a cutting tool, which moves in a horizontal direction. The socket of the bayonet being presented to this cutting tool is shaped to the proper form. By this beautiful little machine not only much manual labour is saved but the stop of the lock ring is left projecting from the socket of the bayonet; whereas in all bayonets of

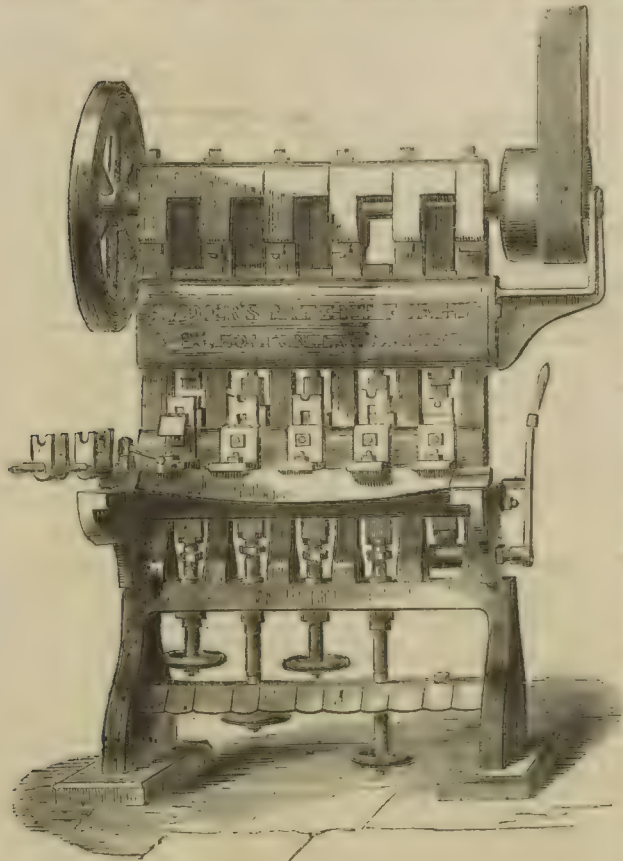


Fig. 1.

springs, and other articles of gun-furniture required for the Minié rifle as now used in the British Army.

We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Francis Preston of Manchester, who is extensively employed in making the above articles, for allowing us to inspect his machinery and describe the process employed by him in the manufacture of the new bayonet—which is a far superior weapon to the

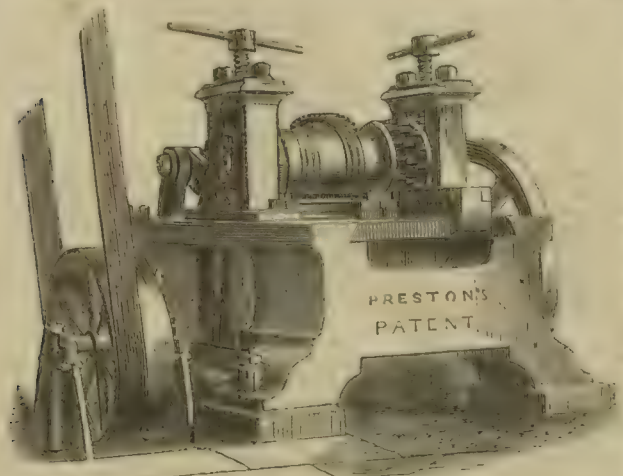


Fig. 3.

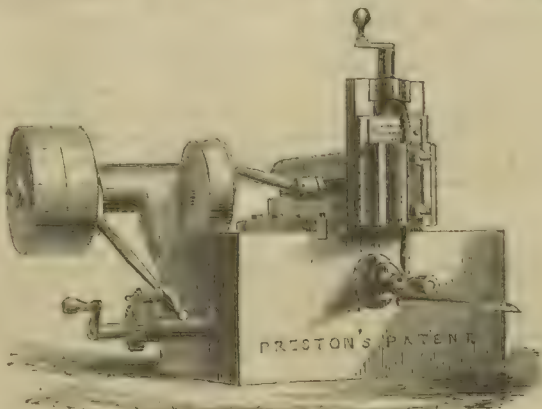


Fig. 4.

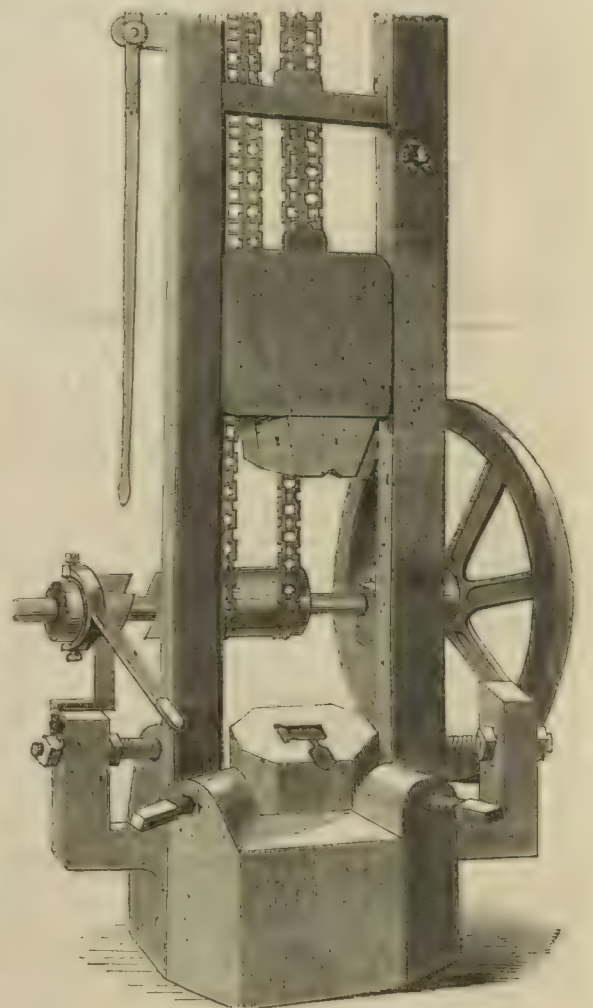


Fig. 2.

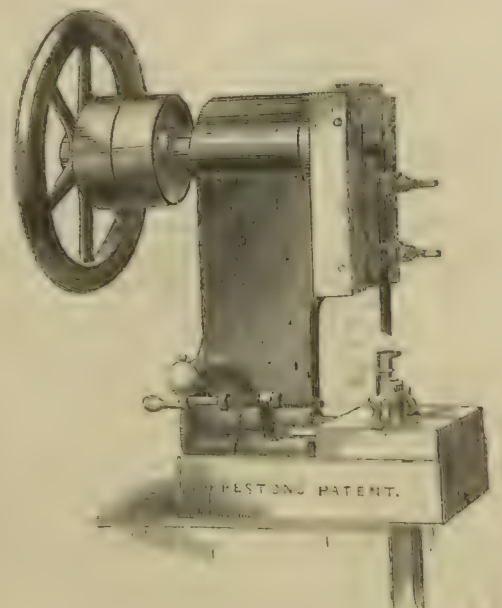


Fig. 5.

the ordinary construction the stop is secured into the socket. This is also a patented invention of Mr. Preston, and is of great importance; for every time the bayonet is put on the barrel of the musket the lock-ring is pressed against the stop; consequently, when the stop is screwed in the socket, this constant action is very liable to loosen and eventually to displace it, thereby rendering the bayonet useless; whereas by making the stop solid with the socket it cannot be displaced.

The bayonet is then brought to the machine shown in Fig. 5, and placed upon a vertical stud. The cutting tool of this machine is moved up and down, and in so doing cuts a slot (or groove) in the bridge of the socket; the bayonet being gradually brought towards the cutting instrument until the slot (or groove) is of the required depth, at which time the machine is stopped by a patented self-acting apparatus. The attendants have only to put the bayonets on the stud and set the machinery in motion, all the rest of the work being self-acting. After this operation has been performed the bayonets are filed up by hand in those parts that cannot be done by machinery. Then the flutes are finished to the required size, hardened and tempered so as to give the required elasticity, and finally polished by machinery. The locking ring is then adjusted, which completes the operation. The bayonets are then ready for the severe test and examination of the Government inspectors, which they have to undergo before they are put into the hands of the soldiers.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

(From our Artist and Special Correspondent.)

CAMP, SEBASTOPOL, Jan. 2, 1856.

WITH the exception of renewed explosions in the docks at Sebastopol, there has been a lack of incident in the Camps this week. The cold has not relented, except on those rare occasions when a gleam of sunshine appeared to thaw the surface of the frozen ground. The general character of our days has been grey. On the night before last the weather changed, and the avocations of soldiers are carried on in two feet of snow.

On Monday I succeeded in obtaining a view of one of the dock explosions—no easy matter considering the secrecy which very properly attends these operations. I had not previously visited Sebastopol for some time, and was struck with the changes in its external aspect, worked by the destroying agency of an army of 100,000 men. It is not the mere demolition that had taken place, for remains would be visible—it is the total disappearance of entire tenements that creates astonishment. I should not wonder if we can say of Sebastopol as old Philip of Burgundy did of a town he had sacked—"This is the spot where once stood Dinant." "Here once stood Sebastopol," may yet be the exclamation of a future Layard.

Cresting the hill over which the Woronzoff road passes towards the town, I looked in vain for the well-known features of the old Picket-house, long celebrated amongst us under that name, and called by the French "La ruine des Anglais." I thought of old Frank Matthews in the play of "Aladdin," looking into the air for the palace, and bursting out into—"Bricks and mortar have flown away!" Every vestige of the place had been removed; and the ground was as clear of remains as if no house had ever been there. What reminiscences have been destroyed by this removal! At the outbreak of the siege the Picket-house was a place which could scarcely be approached too cautiously. The Generals crept up there to reconnoitre, and a sergeant's guard was stationed on it to keep off idlers or imprudent spectators. The nearest Russian guns were two miles off, yet a red coat or a glistening band were instant signals for firing. I don't believe they ever killed anybody, notwithstanding their endeavours. Then the *Twelve Apostles* in the Arsenal Creek, used, in the words of the sergeant, to "blaze away like mad," and we committed the blunder of building a Lancaster battery for the purpose of dislodging the obnoxious ship, which moved out of the way with the utmost ease before a shot was fired, leaving the gun nothing to do. The first damage to the Picket-house was by the Sappers, who took the rafters away for platforms; then the walls began to crumble, and at last nothing but ruins remained. The Russians finally grew more careless of parties standing on the spot, and the only precaution taken up to the latest moment was posting a line of sentries to keep back the crowd; the place having at last become a familiar lounge, where French and English officers and men mixed with Turks and Sardinians, and told each other their mutual experiences in the trenches. During the summer a strange erection of beams and triangular-shaped signals was added to the attractions of the spot, and a burly boatswain was on the look out day and night to telegraph with the fleet. This telegraph also disappeared after the departure of the shipping, and everything now is bare. Our look-out place is thrown forward, and when we want to stare at the Russians we go into the Redan, or even peep from the ruins of Fort Paul: this last, by-the-by, a dangerous pastime.

Through Gordon's, on my way to the docks, I passed and noticed with astonishment the vast numbers of cannon-balls covering the spot. The autumn vegetation had concealed a great number of these interesting memorials, which now stood out upon the bare ground with unusual relief. Old worn-out guns still lay on the earth in the ruins of the batteries, like spectres haunting the scene of their living exploits. Some had been newly vented; others deprived of their trunnions; and many testified, by more than one deep dent in the side or muzzle, to the hard service they had gone through. Further on, below Gordon's, still stood in yellow relief the old zigzag; and parallels leading over deflections in the ground towards the hostile works of Todleben. The bloody field of the Redan, with its crowds of guns, mantelets, wooden beams, and scraps of clothing, infested by legions of rats, seemed unchanged since October, whilst the buildings below it had fallen to ruin, as the soldiers removed the beams and rafters which supported them. Even the trees had disappeared, though their stumps might still be seen above ground, worn and gnawed by mules which impatiently wait for their masters, seeking fuel in the ruins of the Karabelnaia.

At half-past one the mines in the docks exploded with considerable effect, ripping up the stonework and flinging even piles from the foundation high into the air. It was impossible to gain a near view of the affair, and much of the sight was lost on account of the depth of the docks and the interposition of a heavy wall between them and the spectator. After a lapse of more than twenty minutes, the engineers were rushing back to witness the effect of the explosion, when four chambers which had missed fire burst out with great noise and completed the intended destruction. Nobody was hurt, although the Russians opened fire with mortars from Fort Constantine on their right, and a sunken battery on their left. Of the shells fired from Constantine three burst in the air and one in a spot where not a soul was near. The battery on the left was equally unsuccessful, and finally vented its impotent rage on the bare mounds of the Redan, where it was supposed that some of our Generals were looking on at the work of destruction. Half an hour afterwards, working parties were labouring as usual, getting wood from the ruins of the Karabelnaia. The Russians of late have been firing less than usual, and forty shots are the average number per diem. Hardly a day passes without some interchange of communication by flags of truce, the Russians hoisting a white ensign on a large staff near the water side. It has been remarked that latterly the Russian officers communicating with our truce parties have not known the English or French languages. Major Dewar having remarked, on a recent occasion, to a Russian officer, "Il fait mauvais temps, très froid," the Russian replied with a bow, and said "Magnifique."

Le jour de l'an amongst the French camps was marked by less feasting than amongst us. Huts were wanting for jovial celebrations, and tents such as our allies have are not warm enough for jollity. Still there was a considerable sprinkling of soldiers in the booths of Little Kamiesch—a village which more than ever deserves the name of "Coquinville," so extortionate are its inhabitants. A leg of mutton weighing nothing for a sovereign "is not a thing to be desired." Great Kamiesch is nicknamed Friponville, whilst we have found no better name for our village close by than Donnybrook. Dirt and mud are not excluded from this place of ours, though high prices are there, as elsewhere, the rule. The men who keep some of our shops and canteens are indeed the most unpleasant fellows to have in one's neighbourhood. Dishonest servants find a ready sale for one's barley and oats there, and commissariat legs of mutton disappear from our kitchen, to be sold afterwards at the fabulous price I have mentioned. A groom in your Correspondent's service was in the habit of playing such pranks as

those, and he crowned his misdeeds by decamping one night with innumerable candles, soap, sugar, and pounds of flesh, stealing at the same time the coverings off the backs of the horses in the coldest night of the present winter, when thermometers were at zero Fahrenheit. Fortunately, by the exercise of considerable activity, the fellow was caught, and received four dozen; but the lost property was irrecoverable. A few days later a canteen man in the 20th Regiment was convicted of receiving stolen goods, and had his place confiscated, receiving at the same time four dozen for the satisfaction of justice. These Christmas times have made the office of Provost-Marshal no sinecure. The calendar of crimes has been heavy, and the numbers found guilty of drunkenness large. The utmost endeavours have been used to close Coquinville against our men. A provost guard on the Woronzoff prevents soldiers from passing in after twelve in the day, but a few men crawl in now and then, whom it is amusing to see ferreted out by a mounted sergeant, who whips them away amidst the laughter of some and commiseration of others, who, though Frenchmen, are not averse to good cheer. Amongst the latter especially are noticeable the Zouaves, who go familiarly by the name of "chacal," anglicised "jackall," a misnomer in my opinion; for braver men don't exist than the Zouaves, and a more cowardly brute than the jackall is not known. In carrying out the sentence against a drunken artilleryman at Balacava, I regret to say that the patient died. He was sentenced to forty-eight lashes, and having undergone the sentence he was removed to hospital, where, at the end of two hours, he expired. It is said that no doctor was present at the execution of the sentence; and it appears that this is true, the authorities have much to answer for. As regards flogging, it would tend to prove that the maximum allowed by law has not been sufficiently reduced; for although numbers may be cast off unharmed after such a punishment, the death of one man is a subject of serious consideration. Flogging, as administered now, is not supposed to harm the recipient, who goes to hospital for a couple of days only, after which he is put to the forced labour awarded by the sentence. It is therefore believed that the man who has thus died was labouring under some disease. In that case a medical officer should have been there.

Some time ago, a provost-sergeant of the 11th Hussars traced a deserter from the *Royal Albert* to the Café des Colonies, at Kamiesch, and summoned him to surrender. The sailor swore some oaths, defied the sergeant, and refused to come at his bidding. "Will this make you come?" said the provost, pulling out a pistol. The sailor jeeringly answered in the negative. The sergeant fired, and after a short time the sailor died of the wound. Having been arraigned on a charge of murder, he was sentenced to fifteen years' transportation, the court-martial no doubt considering that there had been provocation. General Codrington has confirmed the sentence, although he considers it too lenient.

A fire at Balacava in the Ordnance Commissariat stores illustrates once more the excessive danger of leaning wooden beams across chimney-flues. Fortunately there was no wind; the police were watchful, and although a powder-and-shell ship was towed out to the mouth of the harbour, no other inconvenience resulted, as the fire was speedily got under.

Yesterday the wind, which had been blowing for several weeks from north and east, turned to the southward and westward, covering us with snow. A heavy gale blew along the coast and drove three or four merchant ships in dangerous proximity to the Russians on the north side of Sebastopol. Quick discharges of ordnance from the heights that overlook the sea first apprised these vessels of their danger; they held on their course on the boisterous waves, however, unharmed, and after Fort Constantine had fired at them without doing injury, they were safe.

We hear from Kertch of a cavalry disaster—40 men of the 10th Hussars having been cut off in a farm-house by the Cossacks.

There is nothing new to record of the enemy's movements, except the opening of a new mortar or sunken gun battery, in the vicinity of Gringale, which fires on the bridge of Traktir, and sends shells inconveniently enough into the Camp of the 2nd Zouaves.

The weather having been very bad and prevented the arrival of supplies of fresh meat, the rations have been reduced by our Commissariat to three per week. The French Commissariat have had no meat to distribute for a week past.

Our Divisions are in capital health, although there is an increase under the head of catarrh in the hospital returns. This is but natural, considering the nature of the weather.

CIVIL SERVANTS OF THE CROWN.

In reply to those correspondents who consider that the remarks we made on the 5th of this month were inexact, we have to refer them to a "Return to an Order of the House of Commons, dated 24th May, 1855," which was ordered to be printed 5th June, 1855. The return was for "a copy of a letter to the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, dated the 7th day of December, 1853, from the members of a general committee of Civil Servants of the Crown, relative to the establishment of a Civil Service Provident Fund." It was on that official document and the appendix annexed to it that our remarks were founded. The letter contains the following paragraph:—

In December, 1852, a petition was presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Fitzroy, a copy of which we have the honour to annex. The prayer of that petition is that Parliament will be pleased to take into consideration the 27th section of Act 4 and 5 William IV., c. 24, and sanction the assessments therein directed to be made being applied to the purpose of forming a "Civil Service Provident Fund" for the relief of our widows, orphans, and other relatives, upon the principle of life assurance, without detriment to our own superannuation allowances when worn out and no longer able to perform our public official duties.

It then states that out of the twenty-three principal departments in London, and of the same number in Dublin, returns have been received from forty-two, thus only leaving four out of forty-six who have declined to affix their signatures, or omitted to make returns. The number of persons who contribute to the superannuation fund in those four offices are 116; the number of signatures obtained in the other forty-two offices amount to 3196. This is our justification for stating that a vast majority of the civil servants approved of the petition. But we may quote one more paragraph:—

The feeling in favour of a provident fund upon the principle of Life Assurance, is, therefore, we respectfully submit, all but universal throughout the departments in London, and in Dublin the feeling is even still more decided, there not being a single dissident.

If a public writer cannot depend on Parliamentary documents, to what can he trust?

The correspondents who complain of what we have written, evidently belong to another section of the civil servants, for one of them, who has sent his card to us, says, "What they do ask is that they may be entitled to a scale of pension equal in amount to that allowed to their predecessors who were appointed previously to August, 1829, and who have never been subject to any abatement for the purpose, and that henceforward they may also receive their salaries in full." This correspondent assures us that 9000 out of 11,000 contributors have already signed a petition to this effect, which is dated January, 1856; and the date shows that it was printed after our remarks were written. We can have no other desire than to do justice to all parties; and, as we have now given both statements, we may take leave of the subject, simply observing that, from our own knowledge, other documents will very shortly appear, reviewing the whole of this movement from its origin in 1846.

LIVERPOOL POULTRY SHOW.—There was a severe contest for the principal prizes at this Show, particularly in the class for Black Spanish fowls. The first premium in this class, a beautiful silver cup, value £10 10s., was awarded to a cock and two hens belonging to Mr. H. D. Davies of Spring Grove House, Hounslow; and in proof of the large prices commanded by all kinds of poultry of the first class, we may state that these birds were claimed by Captain Hornby at the reserved price of £100. He was also an exhibitor. The chickens exhibited by Mr. Davies promise, however, when at maturity, to surpass even the two sets of beautiful adult birds shown by that gentleman, one of which has now passed into the hands of Captain Hornby.

THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" AND THE WAR.

THE Peace Society, in its howls against the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS to which we adverted in our No. for Jan. 12, accuses us of fomenting the war spirit for purely commercial reasons. To show it that our commercial sense—if such it be—must have been tolerably keen (and among members of the Society of Friends commercial keenness is generally considered praiseworthy), we extract the following passages from the back numbers of our journal during the last six years. They will prove at all events that we foresaw the necessity of the war, and explained its justice, long before a similar light broke in upon some of the wise men who govern us:—

August 11, 1849.

To Turkey the Hungarian contest is the most important event that has occurred in her history since the days of the Empress Catherine. Her security and the aggrandisement of Russia are incompatible. Her strength lies in Russian weakness; and her best victories are the defeats and humiliations of the Czar. Russia is her ancient, her politic, her insatiable foe, and has patiently awaited for three generations the opportunity of securely establishing her seat of empire among the minarets of Constantinople, and of driving the Mussulmans from Europe. Turkey has been crippled and weakened by many untoward occurrences, and her best friends in theory have not always proved themselves so in practice. Her obvious interest is the independence of Hungary and Poland. In their discontent she has found her strongest barriers against the encroachments of her foe; and in their freedom those barriers will be strengthened. For all those reasons we are inclined to believe that the other revolutions of Europe are far less important in every point of view than the revolution of Hungary. Its success or failure is equally pregnant with great results. In the mean time this country can but look on with solicitude and sympathy.

October 6, 1849.

The gravity of the position is apparent. A Cabinet Council was summoned by Lord Palmerston on Tuesday, and sat for three hours, when we may suppose that this important question was anxiously debated. The duty and true interest of Great Britain and France are to throw the whole weight of their joint influence in favour of the Porte. To forsake that power in an emergency like this would be suicidal policy for each of them. They would fall at once into the rank of second-rate Powers, and leave Russia the virtual mistress of the destinies of Europe. It will depend upon the attitude they assume whether Russia will attempt to parallel the audacity of her language by the audacity of her deeds, and involve Europe in a war for the possession of Constantinople.

A war made by Russia on such a pretext would be so wholly without justification, so utterly destitute of that moral force which neither great nations nor small individuals can safely despise, that, however much Russia may covet the possession of Turkey, or any part of it, we cannot believe that she will run the risk of a general war, especially at such a period as the present. To the Government of France such a war would be a golden opportunity; and to the people of France it would be the most popular war upon record. Even in England—overburdened as we are with debt, and indisposed for war as all our great trading and commercial interests must be considered—AN ARMED INTERVENTION WITH FRANCE IN FAVOUR OF THE PORTE WOULD ENLIST THE SYMPATHY AND GOOD WISHES OF MOST CLASSES OF POLITICIANS. If we are to retain India—to say nothing of our influence in Egypt and the Mediterranean—Russia cannot be allowed to conquer Turkey. We cannot afford it. The question is, in point of fact, as vital to us as to Turkey; and France, on this occasion, has interests, if not identical with, most certainly as strong as, our own.

October 13, 1849.

A note has been addressed by the British Government to our Ambassador at St. Petersburg, of which copies have been forwarded to our Ambassadors in Vienna, Constantinople, and Paris, in which the determination of the British Government to support the Sultan in all exigencies that might compromise his dignity as an independent Sovereign is temperately but decidedly expressed. Lord Palmerston has likewise forwarded instructions to Sir Stratford Canning, and placed at his Excellency's disposal the British fleet in the Mediterranean. The Turkish Government has also received positive assurances of the support of the French Government, should any attack be made upon its independence; and, on its own part, has taken all proper precautions to place its excellent army and fine fleet in immediate working order, as if prepared for the worst.

July 6, 1850.

We are still as ever determined to maintain our position as a preponderating power, upon whose subjects no injury can be inflicted without redress, and without whose consent no step can be taken to change the political status of any other nation of the great European commonwealth. No one will deny that it is necessary, not merely to our national honour, but to our very safety as a State, that we should hold rank in Europe among the greatest Powers. We are, in fact, among the Peers of the world, and cannot descend to be the commoners. Our dignity and rank are essential to our well-being, and to our very existence. If the opinion of England on a matter of European importance can be scorned, defied, and set at naught by any State whatever, we are no longer what we were. If any nation feels that it can insult us with impunity, we are no longer a first but a second rate Power. We hold our rank not by the extent of our territories, the strength of our armies, or even of our fleets, but in a great degree by the moral influence of our past history. In holding and asserting this rank we preserve the peace of the world. Had England no more weight in Europe than Holland or Sweden, how long would war be prevented?—how long would Russia keep her impatient claws from the Turkish Empire?—and how long would other States refrain from forming themselves into new combinations, and endeavouring to round and consolidate their territories at the expense of their neighbours?

November 22, 1851.

The history of Russia is one unbroken series of attempts to extend and consolidate her power in Europe, and to vault into the seat of universal empire. The policy of Catherine is the policy of Nicholas. To be not simply the largest, but the most powerful, State in Europe—to rule the East by overriding the West—to take by brute force that high place among the nations which Great Britain, with a territory not a twentieth part so large, holds, by the industry, the intelligence, and the indomitable spirit and perseverance of her sons, is the object, seldom or never avowed, but always acted upon, by successive Emperors of Russia. It was that policy which induced the partition of Poland, which prompts the humiliation of Turkey, which extended Russian influence over the Danubian provinces of the Sultan, which tries either to monopolise the Danube or to tilt up its mouth, in order that no other State may turn it to the advantageous purposes of commerce, and which dictates the law by land as well as by sea in the south and east of Europe.

At present the balance of power in Europe, upon which so much stress is laid, is but a delusion and a mockery, and at some day not very far distant it may prove to be a snare.

April 22, 1853.

In the commotion that are preparing in Europe, and of which we see all around us the signs and the portents, the true place of France is on the side of freedom. Between Cossackism and Constitutionalism the instincts of France will lead her right, however much her temporary rulers may strive to lead her wrong; and in that struggle, should it ever come, the place of England will be in the vanguard of Civilisation; and, if States and dynasties oppose her, the populations, the races, and the nationalities of Europe will work with her, and bid her God speed. The star of her glory has not yet culminated. Like Toussaint l'Ouverture, she has "great allies," and "powers that work for her."

June 4, 1853.

It is an old and trite proverb that it is much easier to begin a quarrel than to end one. It is probable that the Emperor of Russia will discover the truth of this saying to his cost, whether the result of his intemperance towards Turkey be peace or war. If his object be war, the chances of the issue are so terribly against him, notwithstanding the apparent weakness of the Turkish empire, that the world would be more justified in questioning his sanity than his prudence—if he finally determined to risk a European convulsion at such a time, for such a cause, and under so unjustifiable and outrageous a pretext.

June 11, 1853.

The Czar was not prepared for Turkish resistance, although he might have laughed at the unavailing sympathy of the English people. It will be difficult to avert the collision so wantonly provoked; and to maintain peace will require all the patience, prudence, and wisdom that the great Powers of Europe can command. Great Britain is prepared, single-handed, to support the independence of Turkey. But she will not be left to fight the battle alone. France must become her ally in such a cause.

Memorabilia,
LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND
ARTISTIC.

A little chink may let in much light.—OLD PROVERB.

INEDITED LETTER FROM WARREN HASTINGS TO SIR ISAAC HEARD,
GARTER KING OF ARMS, COLLEGE OF ARMS, LONDON.

Daylesford House, 21st December, 1795.
My dear Sir,—In the names of all the little community of Daylesford-house, return you and dear Lady Heard our grateful acknowledgments for your kind remembrance of us, and for the pledge which you have afforded us of it in the parcel which you have had the goodness to send us, and which in that character comes with a value greatly exceeding that at which we should have estimated it, had it come earlier. By a mistake of the coach, we have but this moment received it, so that I can say nothing yet of its intrinsic merits; but from our implied confidence in your taste, and from the knowledge we already have of the superior talent of your friend, Mr. Webb, whom you announce as the author of the poems (I don't know whether he is of both) we are sure of deriving great entertainment from it. We want it, and the subject of "Griselda" is not ill-suited to the gloom which the weather casts over our evenings. So great was our deference to your judgment that the first thing we read for our common amusement after your departure, and my return from town, was Chaucer's original tale of "Griselda," and was pleased with her, elad as she was in his old and faded garments.
We grieve to hear that Lady Heard has been so much indisposed, and pray that the next year may be more propitious to you both. That we may contribute all that we can towards it, we will drink your health most devoutly on both the Thursdays next ensuing. We, too, have had our portion of sickness; but are thankful that we have suffered much less in this autumn than the last, notwithstanding the inclemency of the season. We all desire to be affectionately remembered to Sir Isaac and Lady Heard, and I beg that he will allow me to call myself, what I truly feel myself, his affectionate friend,
WARREN HASTINGS.

P.S.—I am tired of myself, as a subject of either conversation or writing! but you will read all that concerns my claims on the public, and their present state, in two of the newspapers of this day; which I take the liberty to mention, lest you should not take in either of them. I cannot tell which they are.

* The date of this letter shows it to have been written in the very year when Hastings, after a trial which had extended over eight years, was called to the bar of the House of Lords, and informed that he was acquitted. And the name of Daylesford will remind every one of that charming passage of Macaulay's in which he describes the distressed and dependent condition of the orphan child brought up in the neighbourhood where his progenitors had lived in opulence and grandeur. And how, "on one bright summer day, the boy, then just seven years old, lay on the bank of the rivulet which flows through the old domain of his house to join the Isis. There, as three-score and ten years later he told the tale, rose in his mind a scheme which through all the turns of his eventful career was never abandoned. He would recover the estate which belonged to his fathers—he would be Hastings of Daylesford. This purpose, formed in infancy and poverty, grew stronger as his intellect expanded and as his fortune rose. He pursued the plan with that calm but indomitable force of will which was the most striking peculiarity of his character. When, under a tropical sun, he ruled fifty millions of Asiatics, his hopes—amidst all the cares of war, finance, and legislation—still pointed to Daylesford; and when his long life, so singularly chequered with good and evil, with glory and obloquy, had at length closed for ever, it was at Daylesford that he retired to die."

NOTES.

TRAVELLING IN 1787.—The following diary of the time and expenses involved in a journey to Dublin some seventy years since is interesting and suggestive:—

| JOURNEY TO IRELAND FROM GROSVENOR-SQUARE. | | | |
|---|----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| The 12th June, 1787.—Coach and 4 Horses; Post Chaise, 2; Out-riders for 10 Miles, 6; afterwards only 5: 11 Post Horses. | | | |
| Turnpikes to Wickham (33 miles) ... | £ s. d. | Brought on ... | £ s. d. |
| Horses and Carriage ... | 8 7 6 | To Oswestry Horses (171 miles) ... | 44 5 9½ |
| 13. Turnpikes and Greasing ... | 0 17 10 | To Langollen ... | 4 9 3 |
| Horses to Tetsworth ... | 3 9 3 | To Langollen ... | 3 1 6 |
| To Oxford (54 miles) ... | 3 0 0 | To Cowan ... | 2 9 3 |
| To Woodstock (32 miles) ... | 2 0 0 | To Kenewegue ... | 3 9 3 |
| To Chappel House ... | 2 15 4½ | To Sharnock (230 miles) ... | 2 15 4 |
| To Shipton (83 miles) ... | 2 10 9 | Turnpikes and Greasing ... | 0 11 9½ |
| To Stratford (94 miles) ... | 2 15 4½ | 16. Horses to Conway ... | 3 0 0 |
| To Ockley ... | 3 0 0 | To Bangor ferry ... | 4 4 9 |
| 14. Turnpikes ... | 0 14 2 | To Gwindu ... | 3 2 2 |
| Horses to Birmingham (116 miles) ... | 2 10 9 | To Holyhead ... | 3 2 2 |
| To West Hampton ... | 3 9 3 | Ferry at Bangor ... | 75 11 3 |
| To Shifnal ... | 3 0 0 | Expense of the Yacht ... | 23 7 9 |
| To Haygate ... | 2 0 0 | Duty on the coach ... | 7 13 4 |
| To Salop (154 miles) ... | 2 10 9 | Boat on shore ... | 1 1 0 |
| 15. Turnpikes and Greasing ... | 0 15 11½ | | |
| | £44 5 9½ | | £114 3 4 |

CANNIBAL EPICURES.—"Cannibals, who have tried both, assure us that white men are finer flavoured than negroes, and Englishmen than Frenchmen."—"Langsdorff," Vol. I., p. 141, quoted in Southey's "Common-place Book."

SILHOUETTE.—Silhouette is well understood as a black profile; but it is more extraordinary that a term so universally adopted should not be found in any dictionary, either in that of "L'Academie" or in "Todd's," and has not even been preserved, where it is quite indispensable, in Mullins's "Dictionnaire des Beaux Arts." It is little suspected that this innocent term originated in a political nickname! Silhouette was Minister of State in France in 1759. That period was a critical one; the treasury was in an exhausted condition; and Silhouette, a very honest man, who would hold no intercourse with financiers or loan-mongers, could contrive no other expedient to prevent a national bankruptcy than excessive economy and interminable reform! Paris was not that metropolis, no more than London, where a Plato or a Zeno could long be Minister of State without incurring all the ridicule of the wretched wits. At first they pretended to take his advice, merely to laugh at him: they cut their coats shorter, and wore them without sleeves; they turned their gold snuff-boxes into rough wooden ones; and the new-fashioned portraits were now only profiles of a face, traced by a black pencil on the shadow cast by a candle on white paper. All the fashions assumed an air of niggardly economy, till poor Silhouette was driven into retirement, with all his projects of savings and reforms; but has left his name to describe the most economical sort of portrait, and melancholy as his own fate.—D'ISRAELI, *Second Series of "Curiosities of Literature."*

RELICS OF CHARLES I.—I have long had in my possession a snuff-box, which is said to have belonged to King Charles I., and which bears some proof of the tradition. It is three inches long, two broad, and four-tenths deep. The lid and bottom are formed of tortoiseshell, the sides of silver. On the lid the star and motto of the Order of the Garter are inlaid with silver, the bearings have been cut out, and a silver medallion inserted, having on the obverse a likeness of the King, expressive of confirmed sadness, with the superscription, CAROL D. G. M. B. F. R. H. REX. EX ME FLOR. MEM. The reverse has the inscription:—VIRTUTEM EX ME FORTUNAM EX ALIIS, and shows a pastoral scene with sheep, but no shepherd; a hand stretched from a cloud holds an irradiated crown. On the bottom is inlaid with silver a monogram of the letters CARLO REX, surmounted with a crown. The Rev. A. Terrence, Minister at Glenross, near Edinburgh, has a watch and solitaire which belonged to the grandmother of King Charles, the unfortunate Queen Mary; and documents which show that the solitaire had been worn at the Court of France by a Scottish Countess. The ring which Queen Mary gave to her faithful servant, Melville, has been carefully preserved by his descendants. I remember it being shown to me many years ago by a Mrs. Melville, in Edinburgh, whose husband has been minister at Dunoon.—W. MUIR, Manse, Dysart.

QUERIES.

BEWICK'S ENGRAVINGS.—Can you or any of your readers inform me (through the medium of your excellent columns of "Memorabilia") how or where I can obtain a perfect copy of Bewick's Works or Engravings, having for a length of time made some fruitless inquiries for the same, and been asked incredible prices for imperfect parts? Could I discover the most likely means of obtaining the whole I should greatly value the information.—JAS. A.

STOCKS, BARNACLES, AND BILBOES.—What, if any, was the difference in these instruments of punishment?

[The common stocks are well known, many being still extant in country places. The "barnacles" differed from them in the holes to inclose the legs being separated to distances varying according to the degree of the prisoner's offence, and thus, in extreme cases, being capable of inflicting excessive torture. The "bilboes" were a sort of stocks, consisting of long bars of iron with shackles to confine the offender's feet, used on board ship.]

"I DOUBT IT, QUOTH DOBLEN."—The Hon. Roger North, sixth and youngest son of Dudley, Lord North, was born in 1650. He was brought up to the law, and became Attorney-General, and also Steward of the Courts to Archbishop Sancroft. He resided chiefly with his brother, Francis North, who was successively Solicitor-General, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and Keeper of the Great Seal, under the title of Lord Guildford. Roger North seems generally to have gone the Circuits with his brother, when he was Chief Justice. After the death of Roger, which took place in 1733, an autobiographical manuscript, written by him, was discovered by Baker the antiquarian, who copied it into his own collection. It is merely headed "Notes of me"—viz., R. North. The following is an extract from it.—"I DOUBT IT," QUOTH DOBLEN. "My immediate predecessor was Dolben, brother of the Archbishop of York, Recorder of London, and afterwards Judge of the King's Bench. He was a man of good parts, bred under a Clerk of Assize, and executed the office of Associate of the Crown side, which gave him the habit of a loud voice, though he was but of a small person. He was of an Humour retired, morose, and very insolent. His servants and nephews who depended on him, had much ado to comport with his expectations, or rather exactions, from them; and being a Judge, proved an arrant, peevish, old snarle: and though he looked up to the Court as to a fruit-tree, expecting to be fedd with prebend, to fall from it, yet would be secretly busy to undermine it. He used to declare for the Populace, of late called Mob, from Horace—"Mobile Vulgus," and that they could not err. This is the ordinary Republican principle, but utterly false, for the people, left to themselves, never did right, and never failed to destroy each other. Nor is it any sort of reason takes place with them, but they are a meer mechanical engine, wrought by pestilent knaves within, who actuate it though not seen. When the judgment was given in the King's Bench against the Charter of London, Dolben declined giving any opinion, pretending not to be satisfied, which passage came into a song, and from thence into a proverb—"I doubt it, quoth Dolben." Can any of your readers inform me whether a copy of the above-mentioned song about Dolben is still extant?—RANDOLPH.

TOBACCO.—Speaking of the introduction of tobacco into England Foebrake, in his "Encyclopædia of Antiquities" p. 751, tells us:—"Women, as well as men, used to smoke after supper, and when the children went to school, they carried in their satchels with their books a pipe of tobacco. This their mothers took care to fill early in the morning to serve them instead of a breakfast. At an accustomed hour every one laid aside his book and lit his pipe, the master smoking with them and teaching them how to hold their pipes." What authorities of the seventeenth century are there for this somewhat startling statement!—P. T. M.

ROMAN LEGIONS AT CHESTER.—I should be glad if you or any of your correspondents could give me information on the following point:—We have evidence both from coins and from the testimony of history that among the legions of the Roman army quartered at the city of Chester, the Twentieth (which is known on coins as V. V. V., or Valeria Vicesima Victrix) had a very long stay there. Now I should wish to ask whether there exist at the present day in Chester any inscriptions tending to throw light upon the stay of the Twentieth Legion there, and which may be viewed by a stranger?—L. S.

PAWNBROKERS.—The pawnbroking trade is generally understood to have been practised by the Romans, and to have been followed in the middle ages by the Lombards. Can you or any of your readers inform me when it was first introduced into this country?

[It is said to have been established here by Mich. de Northburg, Bishop of London, in the reign of Edward III.; and, according to Dugdale and other authorities, if any sum so borrowed was not paid at the expiration of a year, the preacher at St. Paul's-cross was to announce that the pledge would be sold in fourteen days unless previously redeemed.]

NAMES OF PLACES ENDING IN "HURST" AND "STEAD."—The observation of your correspondent "Berm" as to names of places ending in "by" is a very true one, and the reason he gives for it is at least a very ingenious one. Will he kindly inform me, through your medium, why the terminations "stead," or "sted," and "hurst" are almost as peculiar to the south-east of our island as "by" is to the north-east and extreme north? The range of the former, scarcely, I think, extends beyond Suffolk to the northwards and Berkshire towards the west; that of the latter is still more limited, it being seldom found out of Berkshire, Surrey, Hants, Sussex, and Kent. Solitary instances of the occurrence of both are to be found, I am well aware, in several counties outside these limits. Thus there is a Brighthurst in Leicestershire, a Brockhurst in Warwickshire, and a Collyhurst in Lancashire; and a Hampstead in Devonshire, a Tunstead in Lancashire. But in like manner we have a Horton Kirby in Kent, and another Kirby in Essex. In such cases, however, the rarity of the exception surely only goes to prove the generality of the rule.—B. N. C., Faversham, Kent.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

YANKEE DOODLE.—The words of this song were written by Dr. Shackburg, an English army surgeon, under Abercrombie, near the city of Albany, on the banks of the Hudson in 1775. The purpose of it was to ridicule the levies, which poured into the camp, company after company, so oddly equipped as to highly divert the British officers. During an excursion in the United States, I picked up the song, which, as the words are little known here, you may think worth recording:—

YANKEE DOODLE.
Father and I went down to Camp,
Along with Captain Goodwin,
Where we see the men and boys
As thick as hasty-pudding.
There was Captain Washington
Upon a slapping stallion,
A giving orders to his men—
I guess there was a million.
And then, the feathers on his hat,
They looked so farnal fine a',
I wanted peskily to get
To give to my Jemima.
And there they had a swampin' gun,
As large as a log of maple,
On a deuced little cart,
A load for father's cattle.
And every time they fired it off
It took a horn of powder;
It made a noise like father's gun,
Only a nation louder.
I went as near to it myself
As Jacob's underpinnin',
Dayswater.
I SUSPECT the song of "Yankee Doodle" was written to the tune of a nursery song in vogue forty or fifty years ago, which ran in this wise:—
Lucy Lockit lost her pocket,
Kitty Fisher found it,
But the dence a penny was there in it,
Except the border round it.
And that this is borrowed from an old English carol of the fourteenth century.—A STATES-MAN.

INSCRIPTION BY BEN JONSON.—SEJANUS HIS FALL, Large Paper, First Edition, original Vellum Binding. Att London, printed by G. Eld, for Thomas Thorpe, 1605.—This copy was lent by the celebrated Dr. (Tom, as he was familiarly called) Rawlinson, the antiquary to Mr. Whalley, and is mentioned by him in his edition of the Author's Works. See Preface, Vol. I., page 27:—"This last was a very fine copy, and had been a Presentation Book from the Poet to his friend. In a blank leaf at the beginning was the following inscription written in Jonson's own hand." And then follows the inscription, which Dr. Kimbault copies in his contribution to "Memorabilia." This interesting and valuable tome was bought for me by the late Mr. Thomas Thorpe, the eminent bookseller, at the sale of Mr. Field's Library on the 22nd of January, 1827, and from that day to the present it has never for a moment passed from my possession. The volume also contains the autograph of Francis Mundy, brother of the dramatist Anthony Mundy, to whom it once belonged. The late Mr. Beckford, of Fonthill, offered me a very, very large sum for it, but in vain.—GEORGE DANIEL, Canonbury.

A "GARCIL," "BOW-RAKE," AND "PALE DYKE."—*Garcil*, in northern dialect, means Underwood. It is probably derived from *Gorse*, i.e. Gorse-hill, Gorse-field, or Gorse-wold, abbreviated by usage. A *bow-rake* might mean a crooked road or byway, from *bow*, crooked (as bow-legged); and *rake*, sometimes used for road, perhaps from the same root as the *reach* of a river. A *pale dyke* is no doubt a boundary ditch, from *pale*, a boundary (Latin *pallus*, a fence), and *dyke*, a ditch. The writer should have stated the meaning of the terms he wishes explained, as his hap-hazard etymology is extremely deceptive. What he terms "gar sel," for instance, is one word.—(See *Halliwel's Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words*.) *Rake* was also a term applied to a hawk which flew wide of the mark; and young hawks were called *bowers* when they first left the nest, in contradistinction to *branchers*, which were more mature birds. A *bow-rake* might mean a wild young hawk, but the sense of the expression should be given as it is used.—BERM.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
G. I. H. H.—Individual opinions are of little value. The question put by Berm is this:—Can any proper evidence be given in support of what LeStrange plainly implies, namely, that alchemists are clever fellows? Is there any scientific authority, or any recorded experience, that can be adduced?
Ιστορεω.—The observations are not sufficiently definite. Try your hand at the elucidation of some obscure question connected with either a place, family, occurrence, or book. The *Æscingas*, of Surrey, derived their name from the Saxon word *Æsc*, an ash-tree. Since lances were made from this wood the term itself came to signify a warrior, and the son of Hengist was so named; hence the tribe *Æscingas*. The syllable *ing* signifies progeny, race, or tribe—our word *young*, and the German *ung*. See a Paper on the word Birmingham in the *Athenæum* of September last.
JOHN E. B.—Names of places compounded of *hurst* are very numerous, especially in Kent and Sussex (see the map of these counties). *Hurst* means a knoll of trees, occurrence, or plantation. With this explanation the compounds are easily analysed. Kemble has a theory at such names indicate the localities of the ancient marks, because they imply a woody district. In Drayton's "Polyolbion," s. 2, is the following passage:—
"To his neighbouring chace the courteous forest showed
No just conceived joy, that from each rising *hurst*,
Where many a goodlie oak had carefully been nursed,
The sylvians in their songs their mirthful meeting tell."
KEEP ME FROM TO DIE.—The passages which we cited are mentioned as instances of the Greek construction in Boyle's illustrations of the tragedies of *Æschylus* and *Sophocles*.
CHMETTERIES.—K. B. M., Bedford.—The subjoined extracts from D'Israeli's "Curiosities of Literature" (Second Series) will answer both your queries. "The Greeks called a burying-ground by the soothing term of *Cemeterion*, or the 'Sleeping-place.' The Jews, who had no horrors of the grave, by *Beth-haim*, or 'the house of the living.' The Germans, with religious simplicity, 'God's-field.'"
H. M., York.—See Webster's Dictionary.
LONDON STONE.—For an account of this relic, "Thamie" may consult Timbs' "Curiosities of London," p. 471.

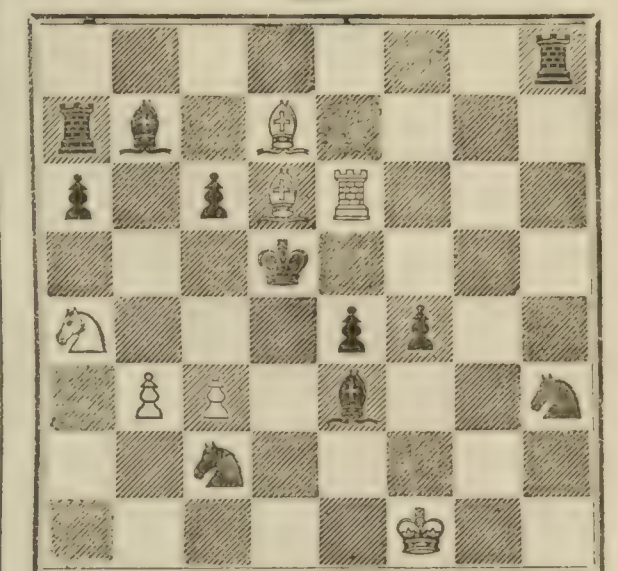
CHESS.

Our usual Answers to Chess Correspondents are postponed until next week.

PROBLEM No. 623.

By J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

A very slight skirmish, played by letter between the accomplished "STELLA," of problem-composing celebrity, and Mr. STAUNTON.

| (Irregular Opening.) | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| WHITE ("Stella.") | BLACK (Mr. S.) |
| 1. P to K B 4th | P to Q 4th |
| 2. P to K 3rd | P to Q 4th |
| 3. P to Q B 4th | P to Q 5th |
| 4. K B to Q 3rd | Q Kt to Q B 3rd |
| 5. P to Q R 3rd | P to K 4th |
| 6. K Kt to K B 3rd | P takes K B P |
| 7. P takes K B P | K B to Q 3rd |
| 8. K Kt to K Kt 5th | B takes P |
| 9. Q to K 2nd (ch) | Q Kt to K 4th |
| 10. K Kt to K B 3rd | Q B to K Kt 5th |
| WHITE ("Stella.") | BLACK (Mr. S.) |
| 11. Castles | K Kt to K 2nd |
| 12. B to K 4th | P to K B 4th |
| 13. Q to K sq (a) | B takes Kt (b) |
| 14. B takes B | Q to her 3rd (c) |
| 15. B to K E 5th | P to K Kt 3rd |
| 16. Q to K R 4th | Kt to Q 6th |
| 17. B to Q sq | Castles (on K side) |
| 18. P to Q 4th (d) | P to K Kt 4th |
| 19. Q to K R 5th | K R to K B 3rd |
| 20. R takes B | Kt takes R and wins. |

(a) Original and ingenious.
(b) Had he taken the Bishop with Pawn, Stella would have obtained a fine attacking position. Ex gr.:—
14. Kt takes Kt P takes B
15. Q takes K P, &c.
(c) Threatening.
(d) To release the poor imprisoned Knight.

Another slight affair between Mr. STAUNTON and an AMATEUR.
(French Game.)

| BLACK (Mr. S.) | WHITE (Amateur) | BLACK (Mr. S.) | WHITE (Amateur) |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. P to K 4th | P to K 3rd | 11. P takes Q B P | Castles |
| 2. K Kt to K B 3rd | Q Kt to Q B 3rd | 12. Q Kt to Q B 3rd | P takes P |
| 3. P to Q 4th | P to Q 4th | 13. Q takes P | P to Q Kt 4th |
| 4. P to K 5th | P to Q R 3rd | 14. Q to K 2nd | B takes P |
| 5. K B to Q 3rd | Kt to Q Kt 5th | 15. B takes Kt | P takes B |
| 6. Castles | P to Q B 4th | 16. Q Kt to K 4th | K B to K 2nd |
| 7. Q B to K Kt 5th | P to K B 3rd | 17. K R to Q sq | Q to Q Kt 3rd |
| 8. P takes P | K Kt takes P | 18. Q R to Q B sq | Q B to Q Kt 2nd |
| 9. P to Q B 4th | Q Kt takes B | 19. Kt to Q 6th | P to K 4th (a) |
| 10. Q takes Kt | K B to K 2nd | 20. Kt to K B 5th | And White surrendered. |

(a) The youngest practical player perceived that if White had taken the Kt he must have lost his Bishop and a Pawn in return.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 970.—By C. W., of Sunbury.
White: K at K B 6th, Q at Q Kt 6th, B at K 7th, Kt at K Kt 3rd and K 3rd, Ps at K Kt 2nd and K B 3rd.
Black: K at K B 5th, Q at K Kt 5th, R at Q B 7th, Bs at Q B 4th and Q R 3rd; Ps at K Kt 3rd, K B 2nd, Q 3rd and 7th.
White to play, and mate in five moves.
No. 971.—By the Same.
White: K at Q 3rd, Bs at K Kt sq and Q 7th, Kt at Q B 4th, P at Q R 4th.
Black: K at Q 4th, Ps at K 3rd and Q B 4th.
White to play and mate in four moves.
No. 972.—By an Amateur.
White: K at K sq, R at K Kt sq and K B 7th, Bs at K 7th and Q Kt 7th, Ps at K B 2nd and Q R 2nd.
Black: K at K 4th; Ps at K R 2nd and 4th, K 3rd and 5th, Q 2nd, Q Kt 3rd, and Q R 5th.
White to play and mate in five moves.

THE CHASSEURS D'AFRIQUE.

THESE mounted Zouaves, who rendered such timely aid to our heroic countrymen in the deadly struggle of Inkerman, when the Russians outnumbered our troops in the proportion of six to one, rank foremost among the various divisions of the French army for all true soldierlike qualities. Truly has it been said of them, by a recent historian of their brave deeds, that they are "indomitable in fight, patient under difficulties, fierce as panthers, yet joyous and tender as children."

The following instance of the excellent spirit by which French soldiers generally are animated is given in a letter from the Camp of Baidar, January 7. The writer, who has been describing a small affair in which the enemy were surprised, says:—

The Russians little expected our visit, and did not even attempt to defend themselves. Assailed in the dark, they took to their heels, abandoning their arms. We killed a few men and made some prisoners, without losing a single man. One of the intrepid soldiers who formed part of that nightly expedition picked up in the Russian post a beautiful miniature portrait of a lady, which was painted in Paris, for it bears the name of one of our best artists. This portrait was evidently lost by the officer in command of the post. If he applies for it, it will be returned to him, for we are in the habit of restoring every valuable article when the legitimate owners are known. We do not only return the objects on which those who lost them set a value as *souvenirs*, but also the money found on the dead, when the sum is any way considerable. To give you an idea of that military probity I need only mention the instance of a soldier of the 46th Regiment of the Line, who, having found on the body of a Russian officer killed a sum of 10,000 francs in gold, hastened to bring it to Marshal Pelissier, in order that it might be returned to the family of the deceased. Those deeds are not rare in our army, and although they are mere acts of honesty we nevertheless feel delight in relating them.



THE CHASSEURS D'AFRIQUE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



CAREENING BAY, SEBASTOPOL.—SKETCHED BY J. A. CROWE.

CAREENING BAY

How it must puzzle the simple-minded Tartars as they gaze upon the wreck and devastation produced by the Allies, to account for the signal defeat of their haughty oppressors! Little more than twelve months ago the docks and harbours of Sebastopol Bay, as they glittered in the bright

sunshine, were crowded with that powerful Russian fleet which was destined to take possession of Constantinople on the first favourable opportunity. And now when the old inhabitants of Traktir—as the place was formerly called—look out upon Careening Bay, the only vestige of the Russian vessels they can discover is the fragment of a dredging machine. The proud fleet which Admiral Nachimoff commanded, whose only exploit was

the massacre of Sinope, lies at the bottom of the bay, while the chief portion of the sailors who manned it have been killed or disabled in their vain attempt to hold possession of Sebastopol. Should the Allies shift the campaign from the neighbourhood of the ruined city to some point further north, as is highly probable, Careening Bay may once more become as lonely a spot as it was before the Russian invasion of the Crimea.



AN INCIDENT IN THE PRESENT WAR.—PAINTED BY SOVRIEUL.—IN THE EXHIBITION OF PICTURES OF THE FRENCH SCHOOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

AN INCIDENT IN THE PRESENT WAR.

PAINTED BY M. SOVRIEUL.

"AN INCIDENT IN THE PRESENT WAR" (may we not say the *late* war?) is one of the earliest in point of time of a series of pictures which the War of Alliance between France and England is sure to produce. Incidents peculiarly adapted to pictures may be found in every fifth page of the stirring letters from the seat of war contributed to the *Times* and *Morning Herald* by Mr. Russell and Mr. Woods. Nor have the special communications of our own Correspondents been wanting in incidents to attract an artist.

In the picture which we engrave this week from the facile and pictorial pencil of Sovrieul, we see how ably a French artist has availed himself of an incident in the war. A fierce and fiery Cossack has dismounted to plunder a wounded Zouave. A female camp-follower pushes the Cossack away from the body of her companion, while one of the 42nd Highlanders sends a ball into the heart of the mercenary ruffian. There is great

animation in the scene. The costumes are picturesque; the subject has a female interest; and we see England and France united in the field of battle.

This picture is known to many of our countrymen by "the Exhibitions of the French School" at Dublin and Leeds. We are glad, by permission of the proprietor, to make it still more widely known by the skill of the engraver and our own columns.

INSCRIPTION FROM NINEVEH.

In order to appreciate the interest of this inscription, it will be requisite to turn to the engraving of the Slab from Nineveh, in our Journal of last week.

There are many in England who still question whether the cuneiform writing has been truly deciphered. We hope the following fact will convince them. When the slab now under notice was discovered, Mr. Loftus

sent a simple copy of the inscription to Colonel Rawlinson, then resident at Bagdad, 300 miles distant. He never saw the subject, as he never visited the excavations during the whole time the last expedition was settled there, and, therefore, could know nothing of it; yet by return by post he wrote, describing the subject, and requested a sketch to enable him to determine the instruments which the King employed. By now engraving the inscription supplementary to the slab, we afford an opportunity to Dr. Hincks and other cuneiform scholars which England has produced to extend their knowledge of the several minor points in this long-lost language.

We append the translation of the Libation Inscription, by Colonel Rawlinson:—"I am Assur-bani-pal, the Supreme Monarch, the King of Assyria, who, having been excited by the inscrutable divinities Assur and Beltis, have slain four lions. I have erected over them an altar sacred to Ishtar (Ashtareth), the goddess of war. I have offered a holocaust over them. I sacrificed a kid (?) over them."

(Signed)

H. RAWLINSON.



SCULPTURES FROM NINEVEH.—INSCRIPTION TO LIBATION.

LITERATURE.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDINBURGH REVIEW. By HENRY LORD BROUGHAM. Three volumes. Griffin and Co.

We are glad to see the appearance of the volumes before us, worthy to range with the select papers of Jeffrey and Macaulay—so long illustrious co-labourers in the same fertile vineyard. The *Edinburgh Review* was, in fact, the great educator of society for the first thirty years of the present century, and fought the battle of the people, and of humanity at large, with consummate skill and invincible perseverance. It began at its very outset, in the dismal days of triumphant and undiluted Toryism, to teach with an authority never before assumed in periodic literature the great truths of economic and political science, and those it has lived to see established in the high places of society, and almost universally received and acted upon, even by many who were originally the most hostile to their adoption. Amongst the illustrious band of *nobiles fratres*, who led the van in the grand enterprise of enlightening and enfranchising the British people, no name is more eminent than that of Henry Brougham. To consummate talents and penetrating genius, courage the most undaunted, and indefatigable industry and perseverance, were united inexhaustible stores of general information, continually augmenting, and a matchless felicity of exposition and application, both as a public writer, and a forensic and political orator. The edition of his works, at present in course of publication by Messrs. Griffin and Co., and revised by the noble author himself, is a valuable present to society, containing the rich deposits of one of the most fertile and encyclopedic minds of modern times. And the wonderful thing is, that these contributions on so many various subjects—political, economical, scientific, and literary—were in fact, the mere recreations of this powerful intellect, an unbending from the sterner duties of the politician, the statesman, and the lawyer.

In the first volume is a series of papers on the orators of Greece and Rome, and on English oratory and pulpit eloquence. These admirable articles should be studied, not merely read, by all who would desire to appreciate criticism, the most delicate and refined, expressed in nervous and pungent diction. They have recently obtained the high approbation of M. Villemain, the eminent French critic and philosopher. Several papers succeed next, on Walpole and his contemporaries, and on the eminent political characters of the reigns of the two last of the Georges. The last of these articles is a terrible *exposé* of the brutal, vindictive, and low-minded conduct of George IV. to his unhappy Queen, and is one of the most scathing and fearful revenges which the historic biographer has ever taken on royal baseness and villany. In the papers on foreign policy a chief characteristic is the broad and comprehensive view taken by the writer, and the success with which he anticipates the now received doctrines on these, at that period, ill-understood questions.

In one of these papers, written twenty years ago, the sagacity of the writer points out the insidious progress of Russia, and the necessity which would soon arise of arresting her career of conquest and aggression. The articles which succeed treat of great constitutional questions; and of political economy and criminal law, and remind us how much we are indebted to the noble author for first laying the foundations of sound knowledge on those recondite subjects, and afterwards, as a statesman, carrying various of them into successful execution.

The remaining papers are chiefly occupied with the researches of Lord Brougham in the fields of mathematical and physical science, evincing the remarkable versatility of his mind, with the vast range of his inquiries. To these succeed essays on a number of miscellaneous literary topics, embracing lively biographies, entertaining sketches, and rich anecdotal matter—mingling the wisdom of the wise with the agreeable *abandon* of the graceful *litterateur*. The noble author, for three score years the recognised advocate of all that aims at ennobling and enriching society, in sending forth this revised and completed edition of his literary labours, to delight and instruct new generations of his countrymen, retires from the stage of public authorship, with equal dignity and propriety, secure that this, his *magnum opus*, will be cherished as the lofty legacy of a great mind to a great people.

TREASURES IN NEEDLEWORK. By Mrs. WARREN and Mrs. PULLAN. THE PRACTICAL HOUSEWIFE. By the Editors of "The Family Friend." Ward and Lock.

Few occupations of the happy English home take so wide and varied a range of taste and utility as Needlework, and probably at no period of the history of the art has it been more usefully cultivated than at the present moment. It is not too much to assume that the love of revivalism has reached this art of the needle as well as other studies of ornament; and, whether in personal adornment or household decoration, rarely has been displayed such richness of fancy since the days when Queen Matilda worked in worsted the very interesting memorial of her husband's greatest victory, which is preserved to this day at Balesux. The volume before us is, therefore, a casket of "Treasures;" for, in this delicate art, as in the more substantial provisions for social life, demand increases supply; and the fair *artistes* of the present work have here assembled a rare collection of designs and patterns, in illustration of their instructions in knitting, netting, crochet, point-lace, tatting, braiding, and embroidery. These designs are in excellent taste; and though, perchance, higher branches of art may not have been left unaccounted, and we may occasionally trace a fancied resemblance in the crown of an infant's cap to the tracery of a marigold window, we are grateful for the clever adaptation as well as the inventive skill. Too much use is not, however, made of the geometrical forms of Art—for Nature, in her luxuriant flower-garden, as well as the walks of the field naturalist, has supplied many of the originals for the patterns before us—in the border of a costly table cover, the embroidery of a note-case or a cap, the bouquets of a tamboured purse, or many a graceful bunch of crochet flowers. Scattered through nearly 500 pages of instructions, there are really practical illustrations of all those delightful branches of needlework which, in their tasteful results, bespeak the well-directed fancy of the worker, and have more than once gently reminded us of "the art of angling." With such high characteristics, we need scarcely add that "The Treasures in Needlework" will be welcomed at thousands of homes and hearths; and the book, in its beautiful forms of teaching, must elevate the taste of the learner.

The *Practical Housewife* is more homely in its aim than is its gay "Needlework" companion. It is a "Lady Bountiful" of a book, commencing seriously with Thoughts on Housekeeping, then passing to the Medicine Chest and Invalids' Food, Cookery for all ages, and Food for all Seasons, with Receipts by the thousand. To show how minutely matters are treated, we may refer to a very closely printed page devoted to "How to Toast Well;" the rare virtue of well-made "melted butter" equally cared for; and a page of illustrations of folding up the table-napkin. There are many scores of other engravings; and, what is very essential to that frequent requirement—to "find anything in a hurry"—the book is provided with an index of full and convenient reference.

MARY HOWITT'S ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY FOR THE YOUNG. W. Kent and Co.

The "Illustrated Library for the Young" is a reissue of a series of little books on different subjects now for the first time published in a unique form. It is edited by Mrs. Mary Howitt—a lady who, as a poet and a novelist, is well known in all family circles. It is written in a simple and amusing style, well calculated to dispose young people to the study of natural history, geography, entomology, botany, and other useful though somewhat abstruse sciences. These subjects are all treated in a manner that cannot fail to bring them within the comprehension of the youthful portion of the community. Several of the illustrations are by Mr. Harrison Weir, and all of them are well executed. We can cordially recommend the little book to the attention of parents.

THE BATTLE OF THE TCHERNAYA.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

IT is with extreme reluctance I venture to again occupy your valuable columns, with a rejoinder to Mr. Coope's elaborate production on the subject of the wounded Russians at the battle of the Tchernaya in your issue of the 15th ult., in which he labours to prove the existence of that which did not exist. I shall not attempt to imitate the rev. gentleman's clerical style of abuse, nor condescend to notice his insolence, but leave it to your readers to judge between us as to the facts, without quibbling as to whether the medical officers, were sent or went. He says they were not there by authority. I have proved they were there, have given some of their names, and can furnish you with a dozen more who rendered assistance to the wounded on that day. The whole of the medical staff of the cavalry and horse artillery were there by order; and as the cavalry were not engaged, their services were available for attendance on the wounded Russians; therefore it was not necessary to issue a special order to them to do that which was their duty to do, and which they did. Others who could be spared went there voluntarily, but some of them retired when they found they were fired upon by the enemy. The ambulances were likewise there by order; and therefore it may be information to him to know they were sent by authority as soon as the firing was heard. I have seen the written order myself in the Adjutant-General's office. Now with regard to the "knapsacks" the rev. gentleman "with assistance" placed under the heads of the wounded without dismounting, but which, unfortunately for his statement, were not there, although he has since discovered "more than one," I will make him a present of that one, and ask him where were the remainder?

It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that your rev. correspondent was unable to find a single medical officer when so many were there, when it is considered that, while unable to discover what was there, he was able to see what was not—"the knapsacks;" and, after having performed feats worthy of a Crimean wizard, modestly applied for a medal. The quibble about "haversacks or pouches" is too absurd to those who know what a pouch or haversack is, as they could not possibly answer the purpose; nor does the discovery of a clerical error or a misprint relieve him from the horns of the dilemma in which he has placed himself.

I may have written rather strongly under feelings of indignation at a charge of inhumanity, either expressed or implied, as this is not the first time "individuals" of the rev. gentleman's cloth have endeavoured to cast unmerited obliquity on the medical department of this army, and make philanthropic capital out of us, with just as much show of justice as in the present instance; and if my sentiments or my acts are not agreeable to him, he has only to thank himself—he must remember he commenced the attack, which was gratuitous, uncalculated, and calculated to mislead the public. His letters and statements were condemned by every chaplain in the Crimea, as well as by Mr. Wright, the Chaplain-General.

Before he ventures to give me serious advice he should be more ingenuous and look at home. The silly threat contained in the last paragraph of his letter is quite consistent with his character of a Christian minister; and in return for his friendly advice to me, I have only to remind him of the homely adage, "mind your own business."

Jan. 17, 1856.

J. MOUNT, Staff-Surgeon First Class.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW ISLAND.—On the outer voyage to Australia of the *Ben Nevis*, in latitude 41.41 south, and in the same longitude as the Crozets, came unexpectedly upon land. Supposing it was the Crozets, he steered 120 miles south, and was astonished to find himself at the Crozets. He describes the new island as the highest he had ever seen, for the mountain ridge on it seemed to be as high as the Andes. The Crozets are in a line with Prince Edward's Island, Marian, and Keruelin's Island.

THE EMPRESS AND THE CHILD.—The following incident marked the review of Tuesday:—At the moment when the Emperor was passing in front of the Zouaves of the Guard, the son of the cantinière of the regiment, a boy of about seven years of age, and already wearing the Zouave uniform, drew near the Emperor, and presented to him a fine bouquet of violets. His Majesty bent down from his horse, and, touching the child with his hand on the cheek, he said: "Thank you, my little friend; go and take your bouquet to the Empress," pointing to the balcony where her Majesty was seated with her ladies, and then proceeded with his inspection. "But how am I to get to the Empress?" said the little messenger, in great embarrassment. "I will show you the way, my little man," said a deep voice near him; and the boy, looking up, perceived that it was the tall drum-major of the Zouaves who had volunteered to serve him as guide. The tall man then took the boy gravely by the hand, and in a few minutes, thanks to the imperturbable reputation of "By order of the Emperor, a bouquet for the Empress," they soon arrived near her Majesty. The Empress accepted the flowers, embraced the little boy on each cheek, and asked him his name and those of his parents, and appeared delighted with his present. At last the child, after having been caressed and kissed by the ladies, returned with his tall comrade to the court below. It may be imagined that he was asked a thousand questions when he came down, but all his faculties seemed to be concentrated in the one fact of his interview, as his constant reply was: "The Empress embraced me."—*Galignani*.

THE BEDMINSTER REREDOS.

Few churches in modern times have absorbed so much of public attention as the recently-consecrated church of St. John, Bedminster—an extensive parish in the city of Bristol, comprising about 19,000 of its population.

The consecration of the church has been so fully detailed in the pages of the leading daily journals, that we need not repeat it here; our immediate object being to direct attention to the sculptured decorations which have given rise to so much controversy and diversity of opinion.

This church replaces another of very ancient date, consisting of chancel, nave, north aisle, with porch, and western tower. Of these it has been satisfactorily proved, by features which have been brought to light during the work of demolition, that the walls of the chancel, north aisle, and tower, date as far back as the thirteenth century.

In designing the present structure, the architect, Mr. John Norton, of London, has adopted the late First Pointed style, not only for its intrinsic beauty, but also with a view of perpetuating the memory of the church as left by its first founders. The new church is dedicated, like its predecessor, to St. John Baptist, and consists of a chancel, nave, aisles, western engaged tower, north porch, two chancel chapels, and sacristy, arranged in the form of a cross. The nave is divided from the aisles by an arcading of acutely-pointed arches, with bold and effective mouldings; the supporting columns being circular, with four small detached shafts grouped round each of them. The capitals are extremely rich through-

out, all different, and presenting the forms of various kinds of foliage, both natural and conventional, interspersed with small figures of animals, after the manner of some beautiful examples in Wells Cathedral. Over the arches are label mouldings, springing from corbels of large size and elaborate ornamentation, which serve also as bases for the shafts upon which the principals of the nave roof are supported. The clerestory is composed of traceried windows, arranged in couplets, between each of which stands an angel—the effect of which is extremely novel and effective, giving, as it does, life and character to this usually uninteresting portion of a church. The principal entrance is by a western doorway, over which is a sculptured representation of the preaching of St. John the Baptist in the wilderness. The chancel is divided from the nave by a lofty and elaborately-moulded arch, above which is frescoed an Agnus Dei on blue ground within a vesica of gold and crimson rays. On each side of this descend the Commandments, in legible characters, with illuminated capitals, this being the position in which, by the canons, they are directed to be placed—a direction which it could be wished were more attended to in the present day, as they might be thus made highly conducive to the beauty of a church, instead of being, as they generally are, a mere useless disfigurement. Beneath the chancel arch is a low stone arcaded screen, supported by a double row of Purbeck-marble shafts, the spandrels of which are carved into delicate foliage. Three compartments on the north side, projected into the nave, and elevated by two steps, form the pulpit, which is thus made a very remarkable feature in the church. In the central compartment, which is paneled, and not pierced like the screen, is a mezzo-relievo representation of the Sermon on the Mount, and in the side panels the preachings of SS. Peter and Paul respectively.

The east wall of the chancel is pierced with a lofty triplet, the internal arches of which are richly foliated, and rest upon detached Purbeck-marble columns. Beneath this is the Reredos, of Caen stone, and occupying the entire width of the chancel. Of this, the most striking feature of the church, we engrave a View from a photograph by Mr. J. B. Hazard, of Bristol. The lower stage is a simple arcading, surmounted by a band of quatrefoils. Above are three large panels, surmounted by crocketed canopies, and sculptured with alto-relievo representations of the Nativity, Crucifixion, and Ascension of our Lord. The first of these subjects, which is on the north side, represents the Virgin Mother kneeling in the stable at Bethlehem before her newly-born son and Lord, and Joseph by her side, and three shepherds coming in to pay their homage. Above the stable, which is conventionally treated, are angels playing on instruments of music; and in the background appear the heads of some cattle.

In the central panel is the Crucifixion. On the north side of the cross stands St. Mary, with the Magdalene weeping on her shoulder; on the south, the "other Mary" and St. John. Above is an angel with crossed stole and uplifted arms; and in the background, the city of Jerusalem, and "many bodies of the saints which slept" arising. The sun and moon are also conventionally introduced. At the foot of the cross appear the usual emblems of mortality, together with a palm-branch, indicative of Christ's victory over death. The south panel represents the Ascension of our Lord, who is surrounded by rays, and attended by angels bearing the crown of glory. Between and at the side of the panels are niches containing statues of the four Evangelists, who stand upon pedestals adorned with their appropriate symbols. The jamb columns of the panels and niches are of rouge-royal marble from the Pyrenees, which serves admirably to relieve the statues within. In the spandrels formed by the canopies over the Evangelists are trefoils, in which are sculptured the instruments of the Passion. Above those of the Nativity, Crucifixion, and Ascension, occur quatrefoils, charged respectively with an Agnus Dei, a floriated cross, with interspersed crown of thorns, and a pelican in her piety. Over the central canopy is a very elaborate jewel-cut cross; over each of the other four stand winged angels, in the act of prayer. The wall behind is carved with a rich diaper pattern. On the north side of the altar, which is eight feet in length, raised on a footpace and duly vested, is a credence of the usual English form; and on the south the sedilia, three simple niches, upon the same level, and divided by Purbeck-marble columns. The stalls are of oak, with subellae for the choristers in front. From these stalls the prayers are said; while for the lessons provision is made in a handsome brass lectern, standing outside the chancel-gates, on the south side. The nave and aisles are seated with low movable benches, resting on the tile pavement, and provided with sloping backs and book boards. The chief glory of this part of the church is the font, which stands at the intersection of the nave, and of the space leading to the north porch, so as to be the first object that meets the eye on coming in by either of those entrances. It is sculptured in Caen stone; the octagonal basin surrounded by angels, alternately bearing shields and having their hands uplifted in prayer; and is supported upon eight small Purbeck columns, grouped round a centre shaft. Of the two high steps upon which it stands the upper is cruciform, the lower octagonal.

The eastern and western windows are by O'Connor, of London; the former having been erected to the memory of the late Mr. G. Whitchurch, by his widow. It is of three lights, representing the Crucifixion in the central light, and Saint John the Baptist and St. Stephen in the two side ones. An exceedingly striking and beautiful effect is obtained by our Lord's body being surrounded by a wreath of passion-flowers in the shape of a vesica, while around are adoring angels. The western window is a couplet, and represents—in one light the "Baptism of Our Lord in the Jordan," and in the other "St. John the Baptist Preaching." The clerestory windows are painted in grisaille, and are the work of Mr. John L. Eland (the brother of the Vicar), and the Rev. C. Plenderleath. The church is lighted by gas standards in brass and blue, which have been executed by Messrs. Skidmore, of Coventry: they are divided into three branches, each of which bears four leaf-shaped burners.

The present structure has been raised principally through the untiring zeal and energy of the highly-esteemed Vicar, the Rev. H. G. Eland.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, WESTBOURNE-PARK, PADDINGTON.

THE want of church accommodation in the extensive and rapidly-increasing parish of Paddington has long been felt, and strenuous efforts have lately been made to remedy the evil. The church of which we give a View this week is intended to supply the large newly-built district of Westbourne-park: it is situated at the junction of the Talbot and Westbourne-park roads, and will be a great boon to the neighbourhood. The Rev. Harvey Brooks, formerly of Lyme Regis, is the Incumbent.

The style of the church is Early Decorated: it is divided into nave, aisles, and transepts, south porch, chancel, and chancel aisles, with a lofty tower and spire.

The nave is 89 feet long, and 23 feet 2 inches wide, with five arches on each side, those opening into the transepts being of greater span than the others. The aisles on each side the nave are 56 feet long and 14 feet 8 inches wide; and the total width of the church is 57 feet 8 inches. The transepts are 80 feet 8 inches long and 20 feet 3 inches wide in the clear. The chancel is 24 feet 3 inches in depth and 21 feet 4 inches in width, with aisles on each side 18 feet long and 13 feet wide—one appropriated to adult free sittings, and the other to children: a wooden parclose with open arches will separate these aisles from the chancel. The vestry is on the north side, external to the north chancel aisle. The tower is square, about 23 feet external dimensions, and is supported by massive buttresses: it is appropriated on the ground-floor as the principal entrance to the church; and above it will contain the organ. It is surmounted by a broached spire, with two tiers of dormers; the total height to the summit being about 180 feet.

(Continued on page 104.)

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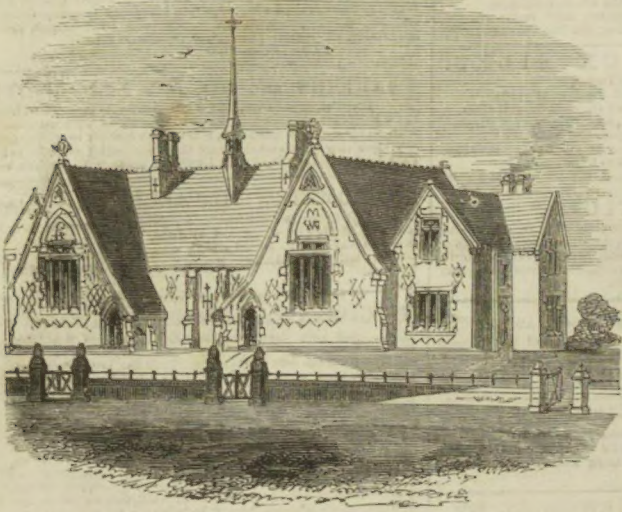
(Continued from page 102.)

The church is faced externally with Kentish rag stone, laid in even courses, with Bath-stone dressings, windows, doors, columns, arches, and other details. The roofs are of Memel timber, and are of lofty pitch; the timbers will be stained and varnished, and the spaces between the rafters coloured. The sittings throughout will be of deal, stained and varnished. The church will accommodate 1500 persons, including children, and will be ready for consecration by the end of May, 1856. The belfry stage of the tower and the spire are not included in the present contract, but are reserved for future erection. The total cost, exclusive of the works reserved, will be about £9000. The architects are Messrs. F. and H. Francis, who have also just completed the adjoining church called Christ Church, Craven-hill in the same parish.

THE NEW CHURCH SCHOOLS AND RESIDENCES, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS.

THESE New National Schools have been erected during the past year, and were formally opened on the 13th November.

The old school-room having been found to be totally inadequate for the requirements of this populous town, the Vicar of the parish and the Rev. R. West directed the attention of the inhabitants and the gentry resident in the neighbourhood to the circumstance; and by their assistance, and the aid of Government, the new buildings have been erected, in an eligible and salubrious situation, near the church and the High-street. They consist of Boys' and Infants' Schools, each 48 feet long and 18 feet wide;



NEW NATIONAL SCHOOLS HEMEL-HEMPSTEAD, HERTS.

with class-rooms attached, 18 feet long and 15 feet wide. There are also residences for the master and mistress, conveniently placed at the eastern and western extremities of the buildings, and adjacent to the schools to which they respectively belong.

Sir Astley P. Cooper, Bart., of Gadebridge has taken a great interest in the undertaking, and has contributed largely to the funds.

The buildings have been erected in the decorated style of Gothic, from the designs, and under the superintendence, of Mr. George Low, architect, of Clement's lane, London, by Mr. Groem, builder, of Hemel Hempstead. The materials used in their construction are red bricks, ornamented with diapers and Caen-stone dressings throughout. The roofs, which are open to the ridge, are of fir varnished; and have a light spire, serving the twofold purpose of a bell turret and a ventilating shaft, erected thereon. The playground and gardens are inclosed with a dwarf wall and ornamental railing thereon similar in character to the buildings.

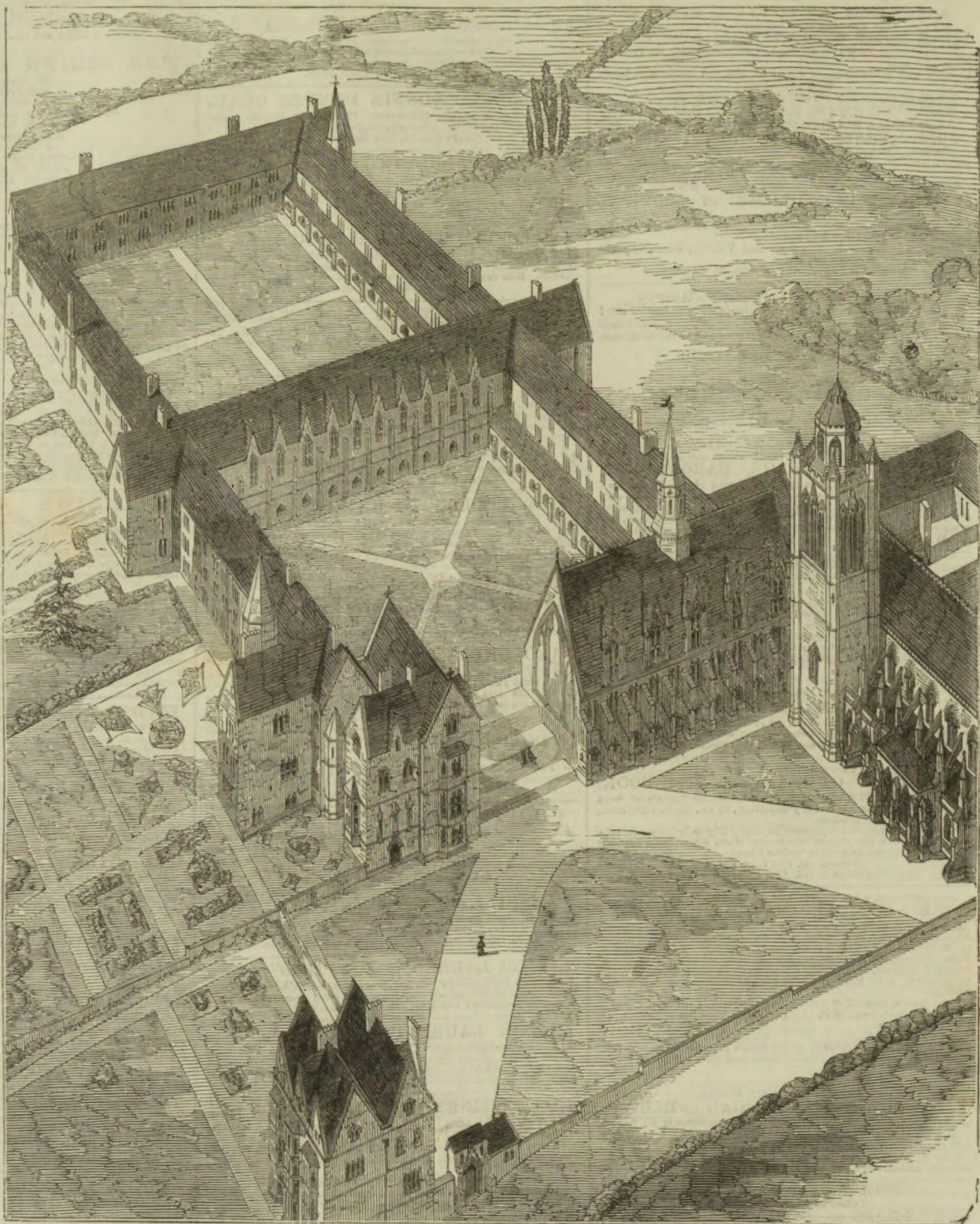
The cost, exclusive of the ground, has been upwards of £2000.

SS. MARY AND NICOLAS COLLEGE, LANCING.

DURING the last years of the long peace with which our country has been blessed (now exchanged for the excitements and trials of a state of war) of the many topics of internal affairs which occupied the attention of the public, none obtained a larger share of notice than the important one of the education of the people. It is much to be regretted that where so much has been said, the proportion of the work accomplished has been so small. What has been done is the work of individuals rather than of any system or authority; and it is gratifying to find that the subject which now so powerfully fills the public mind, though for a time effacing the public question, has not suppressed individual action. The society of SS. Mary and Nicolas College is an instance of this. It was originally founded in



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, WESTBOURNE-PARK, PADDINGTON.

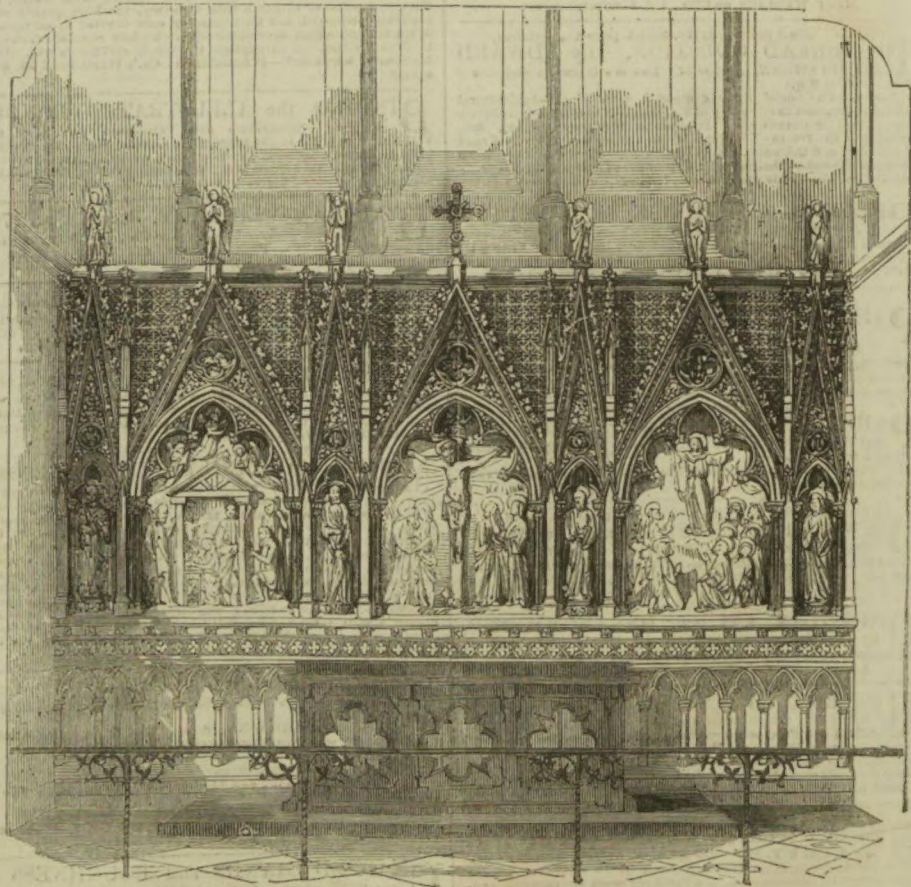


ST. MARY AND ST. NICHOLAS COLLEGE, LANCING, SUSSEX.

1847, by the exertions of a clergyman—the Rev. N. Woodard, now Provost of the College—with a view to extend to the middle and lower classes of society the benefits of education by the clergy of the Church of England. New Shoreham, on the coast of Sussex, was the scene of his labours, and here was formed the nucleus of the society, consisting of the Provost and Fellows (clergymen) superintending a school; which rapidly increased in numbers, and led in the year 1851 to the erection of a magnificent building at Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, at a cost of £20,000, for the accommodation of 300 boys. This is known as St. John's College, and is specially intended for the sons of farmers and tradesmen—"the middle classes"—who are here educated under the immediate superintendence of clergymen in a manner most suitable to their position and prospects, at an extremely moderate cost. The establishment at Shoreham was still maintained, for boys who were to receive a more expensive education; and for this portion of the great work undertaken by the society, the buildings now erecting at Lancing, the immediate subject of this notice, are intended, the location at Shoreham being entirely temporary. Another branch of the society's work is also in hand under the auspices of Lord Robert Cecil and a committee, who are taking measures for the erection of a building to accommodate 1000 boys of the lower middle class, at a cost of about twelve guineas per annum each. In these enterprises the Bishop of the diocese entertains a lively interest; and is, in fact, as visitor of the colleges, connected with their prosperity. Undeterred by war prospects, the society proceeded on the 4th of June last to lay the foundation-stone of the buildings which are to form the College of SS. Mary and Nicolas, Lancing. They will necessarily be extensive and magnificent, as their object requires, while it equally demands that unnecessary expense shall not be incurred. The ceremony was performed by Sir John Patteson; accompanied by Lord Delawarr, Baron Alderson, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Tritton, Mr. Hubbard, and other persons of eminence, and in the presence of a large assemblage of the clergy and gentry of the neighbourhood. The site is well chosen, at a considerable elevation, about two miles from the sea, of which it commands a full view to the south; and across the valley of the Adur are seen to the east the range of chalk downs terminating at Brighton, distant about six miles. The plan consists of an east and west quadrangle, at the sides of which are arranged the dormitories of the boys and rooms of the masters. Between the quadrangles, and dividing them, are the school-rooms and library; and on the east is the dining-hall, 100 feet long by 38 wide, with a break-

fast-room on the ground floor. At the south end of the east front is the Head Master's house. The principal entrance to the buildings is by a flight of steps, fifty feet wide, between the Head Master's house, and the dining-hall, leading at once into the east quadrangle, the ground of which is about ten feet above that of the fore court. By this arrangement the difficulty of the sloping hill-side has been turned to good account. The designs are by the late eminent architect, Mr. R. C. Carpenter, and are characterised by his purity of taste and happy adaptation of the Medieval English style to the wants of the present generation. The buildings are proceeding under the direction of Mr. W. Slater, his friend and former pupil, who has added to the design a chapel—which, although contemplated, had not been designed at the death of the late architect.

The buildings are constructed of flint, with Caen-stone dressings. The contractors for the works are Messrs. Cheeseman, of Brighton.



REREDOS IN THE RESTORED CHURCH OF BEDMINSTER.—(SEE PAGE 102.)